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Hafa Adai!

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US LABOR SECRETARY PEREZ ASSERTS:

'$191K fine vs TDHC fair, reasonable'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. Labor Secretary Thomas E. Perez and other federal labor officials have asserted that the civil penalty assessment in the amount of $191,400 against the owner of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino was both fair and reasonable given their repeat violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Perez and other federal labor officials, through assistant U.S. attorney Jessica F. Wessling, said Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investments Ltd., owner of Tinian Dynasty, and its president Kwan Man argue that the settlement agreement between him (Perez) and HKE waived his right to access civil money penalties.

Perez

Wessling said this argument faces an insurmountable hurdle: accompanying the settlement offer, the Wage and Hour investigator transmitted to HKE and Man a cover letter indicating that the Labor administrator reserved the right to pursue civil money penalties.

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FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

Mechanical engineer Karl McCletchie shows the HD camera of the *Deep Discoverer*, the remotely operated vehicle system aboard the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship *Okeanos Explorer.* The ship is currently on Saipan after the first leg of the 2016: Deepwater Exploration of the Marianas expedition.

Okeanos Explorer visits Saipan after first leg of '16 Marianas exploration

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Ship *Okeanos Explorer* has docked on Saipan after the first leg of the 2016: Deepwater Exploration of the Marianas expedition.

Dubbed as "America's Ship for Ocean Exploration," *Okeanos Explorer* is the only federally funded U.S. ship assigned to systematically explore the world's largely unknown ocean for the purpose of discovery and the advancement of knowledge.

While the ship uses telepresence by using real-time broadband satellite communications—the reason behind several of their discoveries going viral on the Internet as early as their second day of the expedition—about 200 Saipan residents were able to personally see where the action happens yesterday.

There are about 40 crew on board the ship and aside from the science team, *Okeanos Explorer* is operated by the NOAA Commissioned Officer Corps and civilians headed by Commanding Officer commander Mark Wetzler.

The current mission of the *Okeanos Explorer*, which started last April 20 and will last until July 10, will investigate and document deepwater environments in and around the CNMI and

See *OKEANOS* on Page 4

Big time 'ice' supplier gets 11 years, 3 months in jail

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Yu Hua Wang, the alleged second in command of an organization of drug suppliers on Saipan, was slapped yesterday in federal court with a sentence of 11 years and three months imprisonment for conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine or "ice."

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona gave Wang credit of time served.

Wang has been under federal custody since February 2014 when he and six other persons were arrested by joint local and federal law enforcements for distribution of "ice."

Manglona said after serving the prison term, the defendant will be placed on supervised release for five years.

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The Northern Marianas Trades Institute last May 2 received a donation of 300 polo shirts with its logo embroidered from Island Apparel, a Tan Holdings company.

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LOCAL
Disaster Action Team volunteers from the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter responded to two separate fires last week in San Vicente and As Terlaje.

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NATION
Donald Trump declared Wednesday he doesn't need support from House Speaker Paul Ryan or other leery Republican leaders.

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Local

SEDC wants 18K 'permanent' CWs

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Business leaders want Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to pursue the permit of about 18,000 contract workers in the CNMI on a permanent basis.

The Strategic Economic Development Council voted to make this recommendation last Tuesday, underscoring the workforce needs of growing development in the CNMI.

"After a considerable amount of discussion regarding the future number of operating staff required including the current development plans on Tinian, Rota, and Saipan," council chair Robert Jones told *Saipan Tribune*," the SEDC members recommended that Torres consider requesting the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to allow 18,000 CW workers for the CNMI on a permanent basis.

"The vote on the recommendation was a great majority of the members of SEDC," he added.

Request for comment from Torres' office was not immediately available.

Council members have also discussed in recent meetings the government's use of its developers infrastructure tax, broaching ideas to have the tax be dedicated to infrastructure improvements to handle new development, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Among various ongoing development tourist projects, SEDC expects 700 new rooms to be constructed and operational in 2017. In 2018, they expect an additional 1,300 rooms to be constructed and operational.

Based on the Hotel Association of the Northern Marianas Islands 0.71 ratio, there's an expected need for 497 hospitality employees for these 700 rooms in 2017.

In 2018, that number would be an additional 923 employees based on the 1,300 rooms.

Talks for a need of 15,000 to 35,000 workers in the CNMI reportedly have been broached to meet growing development demands.

The CNMI faces the expiration of its local contract worker program in 2019. These workers provide much of the labor force for the local economy and would need Congressional action to extend or replace with a new visa class catered to the CNMI's needs.

The federal government is expected to cut annually the number of contract workers allowed in the NMI up to this 2019 date.

Last October, the cap was cut by 1,000 workers to 12,999 for fiscal year 2016.

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ACG wants to return land, build easement road for military

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

Alter City Group met with representatives from the military and the Department of Public Lands to discuss various concerns last Wednesday.

While ACG declined to comment on the result of the meeting, it has earlier shared with *Saipan Tribune* several concerns that they said they needed to discuss with the military with regards to their project site on Tinian, the Puntan Diablo Cove, which sits right next to the military's land and along the road that the military currently uses for transportation.

According to ACG managing director Ken Lin, they will share information with the military regarding their development plans.

"I think they wanted to see what's our plan and we're willing to share to them," Lin said, "Hopefully we can work with them in a proper way."

ACG chief executive officer Edvon Sze said one matter that they would have to talk about was regarding a portion of their leased land that they need to return because it belongs to the military.

"We need to return portion of our land," Sze said.

"It was a mistake that time… and they thought this is part of their land that belongs to DPL. That's why they leased the whole Puntan Diablo to us," Sze said.

It wasn't until later on that they found out that the land belongs to the military, Sze said.

The portion on the land sits at the northern site of ACG's property and is 6,000 square meters.

According to Lin, it is not an issue if the area belongs to the military. He added that though there were nice pocket beaches there, they cannot build on that area of the property because the land is too narrow and it's near the airport pathway.

An option will be for DPL to give ACG another parcel of land or deduct it from their fee.

"We would like to, of course since its military land, we will give back to DPL, and DPL will give it back to the military," Sze said.

Another matter for ACG is the military's use of Eighth Avenue, which snakes right in the middle of their property.

To solve this, ACG said it has built an easement road that goes along the side of their property instead, but still within their land.

"Our site is right adjacent with the military site. I know there will be some sort of service providing through our site area so that's why we created an easement road special for the military to go to where they can use," Lin said.

Lin said they will present the idea about this easement road to the military.

"[We need to do this] in order for us to continue our project. If we allow them to go in, this project will not be successful," Lin said.

Matua Riders revs up for Memorial Day Ride

The Matua Riders Motorcycle Club is inviting fellow riders and motorcycle enthusiasts to join them for a Memorial Day or Freedom Day Ride at 10am on May 29.

The event is the MRMC's way of honoring and remembering the fallen heroes—the men and women in uniform—for their service.

The Freedom Day Ride, around the island, is open to all motorcycle enthusiasts no matter what motorcycle you ride.

This is also MRMC's celebration and tribute for all who gave up their lives to make sure others are free and are enjoying the fruits of their sacrifice.

Registration for the Freedom Day Ride is free and starts at 8:30am to 9:30am at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion across the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. A briefing about road safety and courtesy will be held before the start of the ride.

For more information, call MRMC president Pete Leon Guerrero at 285-7013 or vice president Ivan "Budz" Igitol at 287-0028. ***(Jon Perez)***

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OKEANOS

From Page 1

the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument.

"In order to plan the expedition, we engaged local CNMI agencies as well as a lot of different groups. NOAA and the CNMI are both co-managers of the Mariana Trench Marine National Monument, but it's not limited to just the monument itself," expedition manager Kelley Elliott said.

The expedition is part of the three-year Campaign to Address the Pacific monument Science, Technology, and Ocean NEeds (CAPSTONE), a foundational science effort focused on deepwater areas of U.S. marine protected areas in the central and western Pacific.

Some of the focus of the dive, according to Elliot, was finding bottom fish fishery habitats, precious corals, and high-density deepsea corals.

"We actually only have anecdotal reports that precious corals existed. Precious corals are of interest and exploited because they're used to be treated as high-value jewelry. We confirmed presence of precious corals here," Elliot said.

She added that they found deepsea corals, one area even as large a football field.

"This whole expedition has been planned in such a way that all of the ROV dives and mapping that we do are specifically to support management interests, both for NOAA and the management agencies here in the Marianas," Elliot added.

After the first leg, *Okeanos Explorer* will stay on Saipan until May 19, and then proceed to its second leg which is the mapping focused on the northern part of the CNMI and the MTMNM until June 11. It will make a port call in Guam on June 12 to 16 before moving on to the third leg on June 17-July 10 which will again utilize the ROV and do more mapping.

ROV: *Seirios and Deep Discoverer*

Among the unique features of the *Okeanos Explorer* is its two-body 6,000-meter remotely operated vehicle (ROV) system comprised of camera sled *Seirios* and *Deep Discoverer*.

"*Seirios*' job is to stay up above the sea floor about 60 feet up and shine light down on *Deep Discoverer* working, so that we get spatial view of what's around us," Ocean/Mechanical Engineer Karl McCletchie, who helped build and operate the ROV system, said.

"Of course the star is the *Deep Discoverer*, it takes all of the close up videos.

The ROV has nine video cameras including two high definition cameras and 20 LED lights to help illuminate the pitch-dark waters. It has thrusters to go down the sea floor and can take pressures almost 600 times that at sea level.

The system also has what is called "Kraft predator manipulator" to take samples from the ocean such as rocks and corals.

"It can delicately pluck small pieces of coral but it can also lift 200 lbs at full reach," McCletchie said.

Mapping the MTMNM

While some may put mapping of the sea floor on the backseat because it's tedious and not as exciting as ROV dives, for experts, mapping is the first step of ocean exploration.

This mission uses the ship's deepwater mapping systems which includes Kongsberg EM302 multibeam sonar, EK60 split-beam fisheries sonars, Knudsen 3260 chirp sub-bottom profiler sonar and Teledyne Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers.

NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research Mapping Lead Lindsay McKenna explains how basic data of the sea floor is needed for ROV dives to be allowed.

She showed an area of the marine monument based on satellite imagery based on gravitational anomaly where the sea floor is not as defined in mapping as the opposed to what they are doing on the expedition.

"They're not going to let us deploy an ROV like that. It's too dangerous. These vehicles are so expensive that you can't just blindly put them on the seafloor like that," McKenna said.

While there were earlier scientists who were able to explore the deepest part of the Marianas Trench, *Okeanos Explorer*'s equipment has limitations.

"Our system's not meant to map the bottom of the Mariana Trench, it won't let us map deeper than 10,000 meters," McKenna said.

Amazing discoveries

Some of the latest discoveries and cool new species that the team has already found deep in the monument are already shared online and has gone viral such as predator sponges, a deep-sea holothurian at Fina Nagu Caldera D, a stunningly beautiful jellyfish seen at "Enigma Seamount," and Basket Star City.

There were a lot of new species discovered, according to the scientists.

For Dr. Diva Amon, the Biology Science Team Lead from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, the most exciting find were the hydrothermal vents.

"We came upon this 10-storey high chimney that was just pouring out black fluid and the best thing about these environments is they have thousands upon thousands of animals living on them because they have a huge amount of food there," Amon said.

"We saw everything there from hairy snails to blind shrimps that have confined bacteria the size of their heads," she added.

NOAA Cooperative Institute for Ocean Exploration, Research, and Technology Associate Director and Geology Science Team Lead Dr. Deborah Glickson agrees that the vents were some of the most exciting ones, especially as she is a marine geologist with a background in hydrothermal vent geology.

She said there are at least five vents and probably more.

Amon said there were at lot of weird and crazy things down at sea but it was also exciting that they were the ones who were the first to see them.

"There were so many interesting fish, fish that actually walked. They have these modified fins and they walk on the seafloor," Amon said.

During dives, small samples are taken, and according to Glickson, biological samples are brought to the Smithsonian and geological samples are brought to Oregon State University.

"Some of them are still alive when they come up. By the time we have finished processing them, there are no longer alive. Especially for the deepsea organisms, the pressure change is just too great for them," Glickson said, when asked if there are live samples taken.

However, aside from the exciting discoveries, there were also disheartening ones. During the first dives of the ROV, trash was found on some of the deepest parts of the ocean.

Amon said they saw a Spam can, beer can, Japanese coffee can, plastic bag, jeans, and rope at about five kilometers deep.

"We did 19 dives and we only saw nine pieces of trash and on only two areas," Amon said.

"It still breaks your heart to see that," she added, "It's really sad but I've worked in many deep sea areas in the world and I've never been on an expedition where we didn't see trash."

Amon said it sends out the message that we should all be responsible about trash and continue reducing them and avoid them getting onto the ocean.

"It's really sad the fact that the place even where humans don't go we can still have an impact," Amon said.

ICE

From Page 1

During the supervised release, Wang will be immediately turned over to immigration officials for deportation proceedings.

Wang was ordered to pay jointly with co-defendant, Xing Bo Fang, $2,600 in restitution to the U.S. government.

The U.S. government waived forfeiture proceedings.

Manglona said Wang, who has a U.S. citizen daughter, engaged in numerous violations of laws while given privilege to remain in the CNMI.

Manglona said the crime that the defendant committed is serious as it involved distribution of "ice," one of the most devastating drugs that continue to plague the community.

The judge noted that Wang had a prior drug case in the Superior Court, but it was subsequently dismissed.

Manglona said a few days later after the case was dismissed, Wang engaged in the same drug activity conduct.

Manglona said this exemplifies the defendant's character—complete disregard of law.

The judge said Wang is thinking that he cannot be held accountable.

Manglona said after pleading guilty, Wang gave unbelievable statements to the U.S. Probation Office in particular to his prior employment in which he received $20,000 to $30,000 in tips from tourists.

Manglona said Wang would not receive such tips unless he's engaged in conduct of "ice" distribution in which he is convicted of.

The judge said other defendants who pleaded guilty, there's actual remorse or sorry.

Manglona said she does not see it from Wang, which is very concerning.

Before the sentencing was handed down, Wang, through an interpreter, apologized for the crime that he committed.

Wang also said sorry to his daughter, who was in the courtroom, and to his parents in China.

"My health condition is not good. I always have headache," he said.

Attorney Robert T. Torres, counsel for Wang, recommended the mandatory minimum prison term of 120 months.

"It's a 10-year sentence. That's an adequate deterrence," Torres said, adding that the defendant pleaded guilty.

Torres said Wang has a U.S. citizen minor child.

Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe recommended a sentence of the maximum 135 months imprisonment.

Backe said Wang's conduct shows his lack of respect of the law.

U.S. Probation Officer Margarita Wonenberg recommended the same 135 months imprisonment.

Wang's co-defendant, Fang, pleaded guilty to the same offense in April 2014. He has yet to be sentenced.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Fang sold about 98.7 grams of 98.0 percent pure methamphetamine hydrochloride to a confidential source of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration on Dec. 27, 2013, at the instruction of Wang. Fang himself personally handled the drug and handed it over to the DEA confidential source.

According to the prosecution, while the confidential source did not give any money to Fang or Wang on that day, the confidential source later gave Wang $8,500 in U.S. government "buy money."

Before that, on Nov. 18, 2013, Fang sold 14.6 grams of "ice" to the same DEA confidential source for $2,700, the prosecution said.

TDHC

From Page 1

Wessling said HKE and Man, however, urge that this letter should be given no weight.

Wessling discussed the civil money penalty in Perez's and other federal labor officials' reply in support of their motion for summary judgment.

The other federal labor officials are Wage and Hour Division administrator David Weil, Regional Wage and Hour Division administrator Ruben Rosalez, and Wage and Hour Western Region director Terrence Trotter.

In December 2014, HKE and Man filed the lawsuit against Perez, Weil, Rosalez, and Trotter for allegedly violating their due process right over their assessment of civil penalty of $191,400.

Wessling said HKE and Man further claim that without resort to evidence outside the four corners of the contract, the plain language of the agreement reflects that the agreement bars civil money penalties.

Wessling said it is unnecessary to resort to extrinsic evidence to conclude that civil money penalties were properly assessed.

"The investigator's letter was attached to the settlement offer and is thus not extrinsic evidence," she said.

The lawyer said HKE and Man also complain that it was somehow improper to settle for full back wages of over $300,000 and assess civil money penalties without collecting liquidated damages.

Wessling said there is of course nothing in the FLSA that would diminish Perez's prosecutorial discretion to settle a case.

She noted that the violations in this case stem from HKE's and Man's failure to pay their workers on a timely basis in 2007.

"It was therefore a priority to get these workers paid promptly," Wessling said.

Wessling said judging from HKE's and Man's contest of the penalties here, it is likely that had liquidated damages been assessed, the workers would still be waiting for payment some nine years later.

In their motion for summary judgment, Perez requested the federal court to affirm the Administrative Review Board's decision that HKE and Man engaged in repeated and willful violations of the overtime provisions of the FLSA.

In their lawsuit, HKE and Man, through counsel Bruce Berline, asked the court to declare that the compliance agreement that HKE signed with a Labor investigator precludes Perez and co-defendants from assessing a civil money penalty against HKE and/or Man.

HKE and Man requested the court to set aside the decision of Labor Administrative Review that affirmed Labor Administrative Law Judge's holding that HKE violated the overtime provisions of the FLSA and the Administrative Law Judge's imposition of civil penalty of $191,400.

The plaintiffs asked the court to remand the matter back to a Labor Administrative Law Judge with instructions to hold a hearing on the merits regarding the propriety of the civil monetary penalty amount assessed against HKE and Man.

Animal rights supporter welcomes passage of anti-animal cruelty bill

Nicole Schafer welcomed the passage of House Bill 19-55 at the House of Representatives last Tuesday during a session on Rota. HB 19-55 aims to prevent the cruel treatment and theft of animals, and providing fines if caught.

Schafer said HB 19-55's hurdling the House is great and welcome news for all animal rights supporters and pet lovers. She recently finished conducting a random survey, the Marianas Dog Attitude Survey, for her thesis that is also a requirement for her second postgraduate degree.

"It is a proud moment for the CNMI. The CNMI is a community that cares not just for its people, but for its animals," said Schafer, who added that HB 19-55 getting past the house is a proof of that.

Schafer, who has also read the bill, said HB 19-55 does not prohibit or tries to stop butchering farm animals like chickens, cows, and pigs for food.

She said educating the public is the next step of animal rights groups like the Saipan Cares for Animals or pet lovers like her once the bill becomes a law.

"We need to make sure everyone is properly educated on what the bill entails and be able to answer the questions of those that wish to improve the care they are providing to their animals or how they can help animals they see in need," said Schafer.

Rep. Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan) authored HB 19-55, or the animal protection bill, since there is no existing law protecting animals from cruelty or theft. Similar animal protection bills were introduced in the past legislatures, from the 13th to the 16th, but all failed to get the needed support and just gathered dust until it was completely forgotten.

HB 19-55 passed the House based on the House Committee on Natural Resources' report, where they found out that there are a total of 1,880 animal cruelty cases that have been reported since 2007.

The bill covers abuse, beating, inflicting excessive harm, killing, and torturing animals. Fines range from $250 to $1,000. ***(Jon Perez)***

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CNMI officials laud 11 Gates scholars

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, along with education officials Herman T. Guerrero and Dr. Rita A. Sablan, welcomed the news of the Commonwealth having 11 students accepted in the Gates Millennium Scholarship Program.

The GMS was established in 1989 from a $1-billion grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. It aims to help and provide opportunity for minority students that excel academically to get a college education.

The CNMI has 11 students in the GMS program with six coming from Kagman High School, while two are from Marianas High School with Saipan Southern High School, Tinian Junior Senior High School, and Mt. Carmel School having one each.

The Federated States of Micronesia has three—two from Chuuk and one from Yap; Guam and Palau have two apiece, while one passed from American Samoa. The State of California has the highest number of students accepted to the program with 181.

Torres said he was pleased to learn that a high number of CNMI students managed to earn the "coveted and highly competitive Gates Millennium Scholarship" program.

"This is incredible news and a perfect reflection of the hard work of the teachers, parents, and students put into advancing the students' educational achievements and standards," said Torres.

He added the CNMI could have the highest awardees per capita with 11 students in the GMS program.

Guerrero, the chairman of the Board of Education, said he was impressed and surprised after learning the news especially with KHS having six as they have been always outshone by MHS in the past.

"It is always nice to have a friendly competition between schools. Congratulations to all students that got accepted in the program and to their teachers who helped in guiding them towards that path," said Guerrero.

He added that KHS excelling this year is proof that more seniors are considering getting a college degree. "Congratulations to their principal Leila Staffler and their teacher [Gerald] van Gils for believing in them."

"This is also good for the CNMI since it shows that we are doing the right thing, from the teachers to Kinder, elementary, middle or junior high, and high school."

Sablan, the education commissioner, said that having 11 Millennium Gates scholars is awesome news. "I'm proud of the 11 scholars for being competitive. It was always been the PSS' vision for our students to graduate and become career ready."

She added that the high number of CNMI students in the GMS program is an indication that the youth of the Commonwealth are becoming more competitive. "They want to show that they could do what the students in the mainland could do."

"I'm proud of the achievements of these students and a huge thank you to all the teachers for guiding them. This just shows that if we can all come and work together we can achieve a lot of things."

Cassey Babauta, Elizabeth Basa, Josepha Cabrera, Victor Juan Castro, Nimei George, and Karen Laoyan are the six KHS students while Roselyn Tanghal and Mary Grace Tiglao are the two from MHS. SSHS has Eliezha Mendoza while Odorico San Nicolas is from TJSHS. Mt. Carmel School's Thomas Manglona II rounded up the list.

Bill pushing for more transfer stations with Torres

A Senate bill to establish a solid waste transfer station in Kagman and in the southern part of Saipan to alleviate illegal dumping was passed by the House of Representatives last Tuesday and now heads to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for action.

Sen. Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan), the bill's author, says the bill would create a "convenient station," or a smaller version of a transfer station, which Saipan has only one in the Lower Base area.

"I hope the governor signs it so that the work begin," Palacios told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview, adding that senators have had formal discussions with government agencies and departments overseeing solid waste, public works, public land, environmental quality, and natural resources and that they all are "willing" and agree that a transfer station should be established.

Palacios says if the bill becomes law it will trigger the executive branch to implement plans that, among others, will involve identifying property, acquiring property from the Department of Public Lands, determining a cost-estimate through the Department of Public Works.

Palacios also suggested that the transfer station could be funded through legislative appropriation, or a partnership with a private entity.

Palacios said members of the Legislature and community groups go out to clean the community but "we continue to have major issues continuing finding trash and solid waste, right after we clean the place and so that's an issue and it becomes a necessity now. I think a simple idea like [this bill] will go far." ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

Former US Army Reserve Jucutan pleads not guilty

Jordan M. Jucutan, a teacher and a former member of the U.S. Army Reserve, has entered a not guilty plea to allegations that he stole referral bonuses from the U.S. Army Reserve totaling $9,000 by fraudulently claiming that he recruited some potential soldiers and claiming the cash incentives for himself.

At the arraignment on Wednesday, Jucutan pleaded not guilty to the second superseding indictment charging him with four counts of wire fraud and four counts of aggravated identity theft.

Jucutan, through his counsel Pamela Brown Blackburn, waived the formal advisement of his constitutional rights and the reading of the charges.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy said the jury trial currently set for May 17 at 10am before Senior Judge Alex R. Munson will proceed.

Assistant U.S. attorney Russell Lorfing appeared for the U.S. government.

According to the second superseding indictment, using an online portal/website, Jucutan allegedly electronically submitted the personal identifiable information for four nominees (potential soldiers) without the knowledge or consent of the nominees on Aug. 25 and 26, 2007, and on June 6, 2009, and on Oct. 28, 2007.

The superseding indictment charged Jucutan with three counts of wire fraud and three counts of aggravated identity theft.

The original indictment charged Jucutan with 15 counts—one count of theft of government property, five counts of aggravated identity theft, and nine counts of wire fraud.

The defendant pleaded not guilty. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Preliminary Hearing

Governor Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the CNMI Board of Parole, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992", Notice is hereby given that a **Preliminary Hearing** is scheduled for May 16, 2016, (Monday) at 10:00 a.m., at the CNMI Board of Parole Office, Capitol Hill Road, Building Number 1216 Saipan. The following individual (s) will appear before the Hearing Examiner:

A. Parolee
1. Robert Jake Palacios CrCs. No.: 13-0011A BOP:14-006

If you have any questions or need information, please call the Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300 or 3302.

/s/ Ramon B. Camacho
Chairman
Date: 05/11/2016

First Baptist Church
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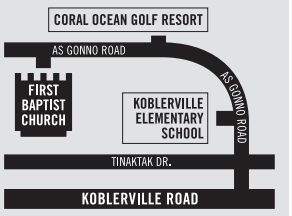
- Morning Worship - 10:00am
- Sunday Evening - 6:00pm
- Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Service - 7:00pm
- Friday Youth Night - 6:00pm



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5/1 Sunday Brunch $22	5/2	5/3 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/4 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/5	5/6 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/7 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
5/8 Mother's Day Brunch $25	5/9	5/10 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/11 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/12	5/13 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
5/15 Sunday Brunch $22	5/16	5/17 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/18 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/19	5/20 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/21 Seafood Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
5/22 Sunday Brunch $22	5/23	5/24 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/25 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/26	5/27 Buffet Lunch $14 Seafood Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)	5/28 Seafood Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)
5/29 Sunday Brunch $22	5/30	5/31 Seafood & Sushi Night Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)				

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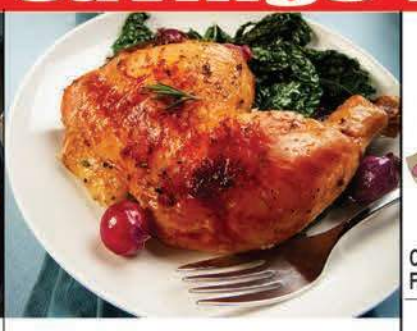

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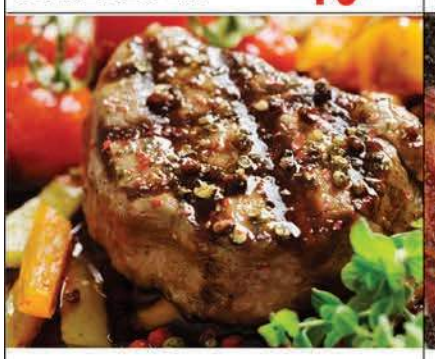

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Ex-lawmaker this time sues NMI over infected knee, leg

Former representative Ana S. Teregeyo is suing the CNMI government for negligence arising from the same allegations in her second amended complaint when her left knee and leg became infected, necessitating five more surgeries and an artificial knee replacement.

Teregeyo named the CNMI as the only defendant in her new complaint that she filed in the Superior Court on Monday pro se or without a lawyer.

Teregeyo asked the court to hold the government liable to pay her damages and court costs. She did not specify the amount.

Teregeyo

The former lawmaker said that last Feb. 5 she sent a demand to the Office of the Attorney General, presenting her claim and providing the government 90 days to respond.

She said the government has failed to respond that's why she's filing the lawsuit.

Teregeyo said the care that she received from the government fell below the applicable standard of care.

Teregeyo said the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. allowed an unqualified and unsupervised physician's assistant to manage her post-operative care.

She said when an infection developed she was not properly treated.

She said CHCC did not properly advise her of the need to obtain specialty treatment outside of the CNMI once the infection that CHCC had negligently failed to properly treat became serious.

She argued that as a direct result of the government's failure to provide care meeting the applicable standard of care to her, she needed to undergo six additional surgeries; suffered mental and emotional distress; physical pain and suffering; and permanent injury to her leg.

Teregeyo's original lawsuit named the CHCC, CHCC chief executive officer Esther L. Muna, and some medical staff officers as defendants.

In the first amended complaint, the former lawmaker named as defendants CHCC, Muna, Dr. Greg Kotheimer, and Dr. Sherleen Osmand.

Teregeyo said Kotheimer is the acting chief of staff for CHCC, while Osmand is the acting director of Medical Affairs for CHCC.

In her second amended complaint, Teregeyo added Benjamin J. Hochhalter as co-defendant with CHCC, Muna, Kotheimer, and Osman. She also corrected Osman's name.

Teregeyo said Hochhalter is the physician assistant and Principle Clinic Care provider.

In her complaint, Teregeyo said that on Nov. 2, 2013, she was admitted to the Commonwealth Health Center because of a shattered tibia bone.

She was treated by Dr. Grant Walker, a board certified orthopedic surgeon licensed by the CNMI to practice medicine.

Teregeyo was released on Nov. 27, 2013, and told to follow up in the orthopedic clinic of the hospital.

On Dec. 19, 2013, she had an orthopedic clinic follow up appointment, in which she saw Hochhalter.

In subsequent visits, Teregeyo said Hochhalter, acting as CHCC employee, remained unsupervised by an orthopedic surgeon.

Teregeyo said Hochhalter took out the post-operative sutures too early, resulting on the gap in the incision to go untreated.

Hochhalter allegedly failed to take an x-ray of her leg for three months, while she was complaining that her leg was starting to angulate as an infection continued eating away at the bone below and including her left knee.

Teregeyo said the infection of her knee necessitated six surgeries, including a full artificial replacement of her knee.

Teregeyo said she had to be treated for 10 months on the U.S. mainland, where she received five additional surgeries at the University Medical Center in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Assistant attorney general David Lochabay said Teregeyo's amended complaint should be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, insufficiency of service, and failure to state a cause of action.

In her reply to the motion, Teregeyo stated that she filed her complaint based on her understanding of Public Law 16-51, which states in part that CHCC can sue and be sued without any reference to a 90-day requirement.

Teregeyo said if it is indeed a requirement, then she is willing to agree to the dismissal of her complaint, but without prejudice, which means she can re-file it.

Lochabay said CHCC, a public corporation, cannot be sued in tort without first having presented any claim to the Office of Attorney General.

Lochabay said Teregeyo has not pled she presented her claim to the AG at least 90 days prior to filing suit and that the claim was subsequently denied in writing or by the passage of time. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Triple J to sell Tony Roma's famous ribs

Team Triple J will be selling Tony Roma's famous ribs as part of its fundraising event for the 2016 Marianas March Against Cancer tonight at the Hopwood Junior High School grounds in Chalan Piao.

The succulent ribs will come with rice, corn, coleslaw, and tiramisu for desert. All proceeds will go to MMAC.

Team Triple J will also have a cash machine raffle where $2 will earn you one raffle entry as well as an entry to the cash machine for a chance to earn more raffle tickets. The raffle is at 12am, while there will also be a mini basketball game.

Frank Ada, Aoki Atsushi, Alex Camacho, Perry Inos, Ryuhei Kono, Iliana Pacheco, Jay Santos, and Mario Valentino are Team Triple J's captains.

Triple J Saipan is dedicated to helping the community by partnering with all of their affiliated companies to come together as Team 3J For Life at this year's MMAC event.

Team 3J For Life is an embodiment of how Triple J can come together to make a difference in our community and truly help those in need. Their team name is not just a commitment, but also a promise to always celebrate life.

Triple J has many employees who have personally felt the negative effects of cancer, and as a team, they want to come together to show solidarity with them as well as raise funds to directly help support CNMI families and caregivers. ***(PR)***

NAVFAC Marianas receives award for exceeding all small business goals

PITI, Guam—Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Marianas received a Certificate of Small Business Achievement Excellence from NAVFAC Headquarters (HQ) in April for the team's impressive success in exceeding all Small Business Program target goals in fiscal year (FY) 2015.

"I am pleased to recognize and congratulate our acquisition workforce," said NAVFAC Marianas Commanding Officer Capt. Stephanie Jones. "This award is a fine example of the quality and caliber of small businesses available to support the military mission on Guam, and a testament to the hard work and dedication of the entire team at NAVFAC Marianas."

In FY 2015, the small business goal established for NAVFAC Marianas was 46 percent of total procurement actions. NAVFAC Marianas awarded 52.3 percent of its total procurement to Small Business concerns. Of that amount, 19 percent were Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone small businesses; more than 43 percent were small disadvantaged businesses (SDB); and more than 5 percent of procurement dollars went to women owned small businesses (WOSB).

"Your leadership and the collective team efforts exemplify the Federal Acquisition System vision to deliver on a timely basis the best value products and services to our Supported Commands while maintaining the public's trust and fulfilling public policy objectives," wrote NAVFAC Commander and Chief of Civil Engineers Rear Adm. Bret Muilenburg in a congratulatory letter to NAVFAC Marianas. Muilenburg went on to commend the command and its acquisition workforce for a job well done. "I am honored to acknowledge your leadership, commitment and demonstration of accountability for NAVFAC Marianas' performance in exceeding all small business targets for FY 2015 NAVFAC Small Business Program Award category."

NAVFAC Marianas Small Business Professional Norma Borja credited active outreach as one of the primary reasons for their success. "Our efforts in the community enable us to identify qualified small businesses that can potentially provide the products and services required to support our government clients and accomplish our mission," said Borja. "Active outreach enhances our success by meeting with contractors and vendors interested in conducting business with NAVFAC Marianas," she said. "We provide tips and suggestions on how to be successful in competing for our requirements."

NAVFAC Marianas' Small Business Program Office continues to work diligently to provide maximum opportunities for small business participation in all acquisitions. For more information visit the Small Business Program Office web page at www.navy.navy.mil. ***(PR)***

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Saturday, May 14, 2016 Entertainment
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6:30pm Ana Glushko Academy
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This highly anticipated weekly celebration will be held every Saturday in May at American Memorial Park from 6-10 p.m. The event will feature delicious local and international cuisine sold by 14 hotel and local restaurants. Enjoy the talent of local and international performers with live entertainment all evening. The event will feature nightly competitions, as well as trivia questions aimed at promoting tourism awareness.
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By PHIL YORIO
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

With the uncertainty of oil making any type of comeback anytime soon and the U.S. going from over 1,700+ oilrigs pumping oil to less than 360 last week, it could basically be the end for oil production in the U.S. for the foreseeable future. Even T. Boone Pickens said in an interview last week that the U.S. oil industry is dead in the water, a very bearish statement indeed from the past guru in oil. Now Mr. Pickens spends his billionaire days investing in renewable energy. Bad for oil but great news for the U.S. solar energy market. In February the millionth solar energy installation was completed, this momentous number has taken 40 years to arrive, but believe me the next million will take a lot less time. With economies of scale, the price of hardware and software coming down and a more experienced workforce, solar energy has gone from $17 a watt for an installation 15 years ago to now under $3 a watt. There are solar farms now in the U.S. where the utility is purchasing solar energy for under $.04/watt, incredible and true. We have come a long way in this industry and we are only getting started. Solar power in the U.S. is expected to grow 119 percent in 2016 or roughly 16 GW of additional installed base.

This week in the solar energy world we also have some very exciting news coming out of Germany. The United States is responsible for the invention of solar energy but believe me Germany was the country that put this on the map, they were the movers and shakers that have enabled this industry to cut its teeth and grow its legs. Germany, the fourth largest economy in the world, at around 1pm last Sunday, May 8, a particular sunny and windy day Germany's solar and wind energy plants supplied a combined 55 gigawatts or 87 percent of the 63 gigawatts being consumed from the grid. That day proved that a very well-engineered and planned out system with a very large amount of renewable energy production can work together fine. The average renewable energy mix to conventional fossil fuel produced energy was 33 percent in 2015. Germany has also come a very long way. This milestone in Germany was made possible because of a "People Powered" renewable energy revolution. This is what is needed on our beautiful island. We need good leaders supporting smart energy policy for the interest of our community. When I hear the status quo saying it will not work or it cannot work I focus on places like Germany where they did not listen to the naysayers they believed could change this world and their country and they did make it work. If we develop smart energy policy we can change our island where we can have energy security that is clean, efficient, sustainable at a very cost effective price. Planning out our energy future now is very important, in a time when oil is declining, and solar energy is getting more efficient and cheaper we want to be careful where we steer our future. I had the privilege of hearing Dr. Hermann Scheer from Germany speak a few years back and his words still reverberate in my head, "any country or nation that is building new power plants now, these will become the stranded assets within the next decade." Together let's be smart not to let this happen here.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Phil Yorio is the general manager of Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc.-CNMI.

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BSI donates $2,000 to MTEC

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. has donated $2,000 to the Marianas Tourism Education Council.

MTEC board of directors chair Vicky I. Benavente said the money would be used for MTEC programs, specifically outreach programs to public schools.

"Thank you Best Sunshine. We appreciate your support with this event…[and] we're very proud to be sponsoring with them," she said.

MTEC is the principal organization focused on increasing awareness and supporting tourism-related programs benefitting the Commonwealth's public school students.

The council will stage this Saturday the first ever Governor's Tourism Cup as part of Marianas Visitors Authority's 40th anniversary.

BSI Corporate Social Responsibility director Geralyn Dela Cruz represented the company during the recent ceremonial check turnover to MTEC officials led by Benavente and treasurer Shamika J. Rates, MVA vice chairman of the board of director James Nelson, and community project manager Martin Duenas. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. Corporate Social Responsibility Director Geralyn Dela Cruz, second from right, presents the company's $2,000 donation to Marianas Tourism Education Council. In photo, from left, are MTEC treasurer Shamika J. Rates, board of directors chair Vicky I. Benavente, Marianas Visitors Authority vice chairman of the board of director James Nelson, Dela Cruz, and MVA Community Project manager Martin Duenas.

House passes bill prohibiting military land leases

The House of Representatives on Tuesday passed a bill to prohibit the Department of Public Lands from leasing any lands of the Commonwealth for military or live-fire bombing training and to require that any proposed public land lease for any other military activity be ratified by the people at a general or special election.

The bill cites concern with the continued bombing and damage to Farallon de Medinilla and the proposed new live-fire training ranges on Tinian and Pagan.

Attorney General Edward Manibusan, though, earlier said that the bill could not prevent the federal government from taking its desired land through eminent domain, a possible far worse outcome than if the land were leased, and that the bill would "discourage" negotiation and give the people less control of the acquisition process.

Sen. Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan), who authored the bill, maintains that because the required negotiations involve CNMI Covenant provisions, the document that established its relationship with the U.S., then the people, and not a department, should decide.

"…It should be the governor, executive, the head of the government, the legislative branch, or a team that will negotiate the terms and conditions and then that has to be ratified by the people because it is part of a Covenant provision…We should bring it back to the people," Palacios told *Saipan Tribune.*

"The departmental level is not the way to go with the leasing of public lands for military or for federal," he added.

The House amended and passed a version of the bill that adds that the proposed military leases be ratified by the CNMI people "of Northern Marianas Descent." The NMD-favoring requirement, among other amendments to require a "majority" vote rather than a two-thirds majority, was passed by the House Tuesday. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

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New ID cards for whales, dolphins, seabirds released

NOUMEA, New Caledonia—A set of 20 identification cards outlining the description of 30 different species of whales, dolphins and seabirds have been produced by the Pacific Community (SPC) to assist Pacific Islands Regional Fisheries Observers with identifying species of special interest while onboard commercial tuna fishing vessels.

The new waterproof pocket cards, which have been produced with financial assistance from the Japan Trust Fund, contain the common and scientific name of the species as well as outline key features that assist with their identification.

They will be distributed to observers across the entire Pacific Islands region as part of SPC's continuous efforts to ensure observers possess the necessary information and tools to accurately identify and record catch, as well as sightings of species of special interest and their interaction with fishing activities.

"Recording accurate assessments of target fisheries stocks as well as recording the impact of fishing activities on all species, including those that are protected, is critical for effective fisheries management," SPC's Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Division chief scientist and deputy director (Oceanic Fisheries) Dr. John Hampton said.

"When observers collect information about these species, their ability to accurately identify the rarer species is often critical because a small change in their population numbers has a proportionally greater significance. These handy identification cards will greatly assist with this process."

These new whale, dolphins, and sea birds ID cards complement the PIFRO purse seine fish ID cards and the Marine species identification manual for horizontal longline fisherman produced by SPC in 2014 and 2008 respectively.

Through its FAME Division, SPC provides scientific and technical expertise to support the sustainable development and management of fisheries resources in the Pacific region for economic growth, food security, and environmental conservation. ***(PR)***

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EDITORIAL

What Suu Kyi won't say

The Rohingya Muslim population in Myanmar has long been deemed one of the world's most persecuted minorities, its plight called a "most urgent matter" by President Barack Obama. Episodes of sectarian violence drove the Rohingya from their homes, leaving more than 100,000 in squalid camps for the displaced. Restricted in how they travel and denied educational opportunities, they are the outcasts in majority-Buddhist Myanmar, also known as Burma. Many Rohingya families have lived in Myanmar for generations, yet they are considered illegal immigrants from Bangladesh and West Bengal. And most in effect have been denied citizenship because they can't meet the nearly impossible standard set by law.

Myanmar has made a stunning transition from military rule to the newly elected government led, in effect, by Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi. Human rights advocates have hoped that she and her ruling National League for Democracy party would dismantle the repressive measures against the Rohingya. Suu Kyi, who was disturbingly noncommittal on the issue during the election, has now spoken up — but, woefully, only to endorse the previous government's discriminatory practice of refusing to recognize the Rohingya as one of the country's more than 130 officially sanctioned ethnic groups. Instead, her government has advised foreign embassies to stop using the word "Rohingya." Many Buddhists in Myanmar refer to them as Bengalis — a designation that casts them as outsiders with no claim to citizenship. It's unconscionable on the part of Suu Kyi to support this and a disappointing start for a new government rooted in democracy.

To be sure, Myanmar is a fragile democracy in which civilian officials must share power with the military. Forging this new government requires Suu Kyi and her party to move the country toward democracy while also maintaining the military leaders' cooperation. To the new government's credit, it moved quickly to release almost 200 political prisoners and other detainees.

But given the new government's refusal to call the Rohingya by their name—and Suu Kyi's reported advice to the new U.S. ambassador to do the same—oppression of the Rohingya seems likely to remain official government policy for the foreseeable future. As such, the U.S. government should keep in place at least some of the rules for investors and the sanctions against Myanmar that are set to expire later this month, particularly the ones that require American companies working in Myanmar to report on their efforts to ensure that human and labor rights are maintained, and to not do business with specially designated nationals with ties to human rights abuses. Myanmar's march to democracy shouldn't leave the Rohingya behind.

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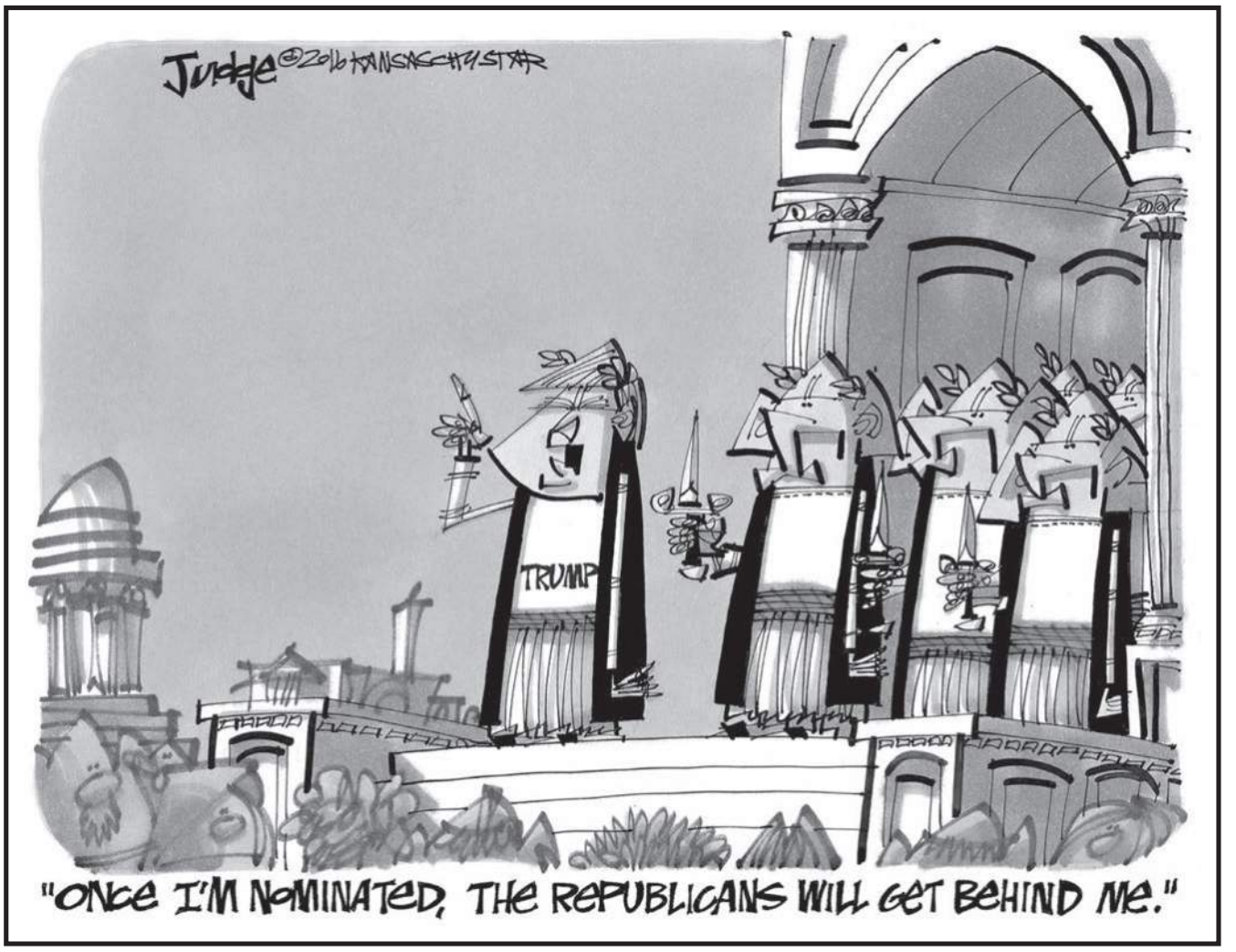

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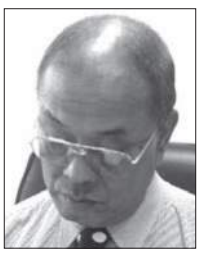


By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

A Commonwealth Utilities Corp. consultant told the utility agency in straightforward fashion about energy loss being "excessive" and power generation limitations when mirrored against new investments.

Another consultancy says CUC could improve power generation as new investments hook up to the grid. It isn't the second that I find amusing as much as the quiet passing of CUC's inadequacies on energy loss to consumers. This is criminal!

The former consultant seems to have greater truth to its assertion on current and future energy needs. Recalled as DPL secretary granting CUC, via MPLT, some $3.5 million to improve the old power plant in Lower Base. I haven't seen anything beyond normal repair. It's all eyeballing wrapped in ad hoc planning.

The other side is water scarcity and its woeful limitations when everybody is hooked up to city water system especially the business center in Garapan. When BSI's hotel opens, how would the hotel, village, businesses, and schools deal with limited water?

After more than 20 years of stagnant wages, CUC decided to unload cost of energy loss on the shoulders of its customers who hardly make ends meet. Consultant is right declaring such transfer as "unacceptable"—all $5 million—charged against us! I'd say such an act is "criminal!"

Why must we pay for CUC's inadequacies or incompetency? How do we know that we aren't also paying for the NMI's debt to CUC of more than $30 million? Could economic optimism repay consumers the $5 million like right here and now?

As it is, the continuing riddle is future energy sufficiency including water! I'm sure that when these issues begin to take their toll against consumers it would be a little too late to demand for competency of board members!

Reversionary rights: Hardly anyone noticed the appearance of indigenous reversionary rights that has steadily risen like an unusual tidal shift. It now sits with the break of dawn out east and would eventually make landfall.

It is the return of indigenous public land and everything built on the property at the end of the lease term, specifically, Kan Pacific in Magpi`.

It has triggered concerns in the misunderstood nature of landownership that originated from the Covenant Land Alienation provision. It was translated into what's known as Article XII that preserves landownership to the indigenous people.

The impending reversion seems to have placed suspicion on the credibility of the NMI for investment purposes, unnecessarily. Understood! But investors knew the score, Full Square from the outset. I'm sure it's an issue we could discuss and resolve with a sense of civility!

I'm aware of the current lease and Kan Pacific's commitment that included major infractions. Has this been given critical review and shared publicly? Would not the infractions be sufficient reasons to void the lease? KP doesn't have renewal rights under the lease.

Homestead: With over 2,000 residential homestead applicants here, we should explore turning the golf course area (front and back) into a village homestead. All it needs are the emplacement of power, water, and roads. Let homeowners prepare their own backyard septic tanks. It's an idea worth exploring in hopes of meeting the needs of the landless indigenous folks. Public land is for the landless! Must explore to the hilt in the interest of our people.

Leave the leeward side alone and let's continue making money. But turn the windward side (entire golf course) into a new homestead residential area.

Other issues: NMDs must resolve the conflicting principle in individual landownership under the old land tenure system versus collective ownership espoused under Article XII. Since when did we surrender landownership to the state or NMI?

Furthermore, if you're true to your conviction as NMD visionaries isn't it time to demand for a socio-economic blue print from this administration? How long would you acquiesce lawlessness in the NMI? Isn't it time to commence discussion on institutional investments beyond hotel occupancy? Are there realistic training and education plans to replace CWs in two year's time? If not, have you prepared your federal mea culpa for what appears to be a continuing inadequacies mendicants or beggars for running self-government into bankruptcy?

With a $572 million deficit and $779 million debt the NMI owes the NMI Retirement Fund riddled by nepotism and incompetency it doesn't leave much room for optimism on self-government, is there?

See ENERGY on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

A week of planets

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

If you follow science news, you may have noticed some buzz about Mercury's May 9 solar transit. Because of cosmic geometry, the transit was not visible from a broad swath of the west Pacific. That swath included Saipan. But this week is still a good one to think about planets, so here we go.

Oddly enough, I happened to be at an astronomy gathering during the event, but it wasn't because of Mercury. Those who observed the transit (I didn't) saw the teeny-tiny dot of Mercury's orb crawling in front of the sun. This wasn't a naked-eye gig. It required some equipment and technique. Photos are all over the Web, and I did look at some of those.

The photos put the sun's imposing size into perspective. In normal, everyday life, we have no sense of the sun's scale. Mercury is the smallest planet in our solar system, but it's still very much a planet, and photos of the transit make it look so fleetingly small against the mighty backdrop of the sun.

Since Mercury is the closet planet to the sun, you'd expect it to be parched, and some of it is, with temperatures that reach 800F. On the other hand, parts of Mercury also get to hundreds of degrees below zero. This wacky hot-or-cold situation is the result of having no atmosphere (well, none worth writing home about, at least), so there's no gas blanket to smooth out the extremes.

If the weather is lousy, the scenery isn't much better, either. Its surface is pocked with craters and it looks like the moon. However, it doesn't even have a moon of its own. Poor Mercury.

And, poor Earth, eventually. Mercury's barren fate awaits us in one or two billion years. That's when the sun will succumb to middle-aged bloat. Its expanding belly will boil off the earth's atmosphere and oceans. I guess we'll still keep our moon, but there won't be anyone left to appreciate it.

But here's something to appreciate: Jupiter. Mercury's transit may have cold-shouldered Saipan, but Jupiter, big, bright, and fat, more than makes up for it.

Jupiter is hanging high overhead, in a perfect position to be viewed from Saipan. If you take a look at about 9pm this weekend, Jupiter will be about 60 degrees above due west, and it will be the brightest thing in that part of the sky except for the sliver of the Earth's moon. This is an easy find for everyone on Saipan, even if they live on the east side of the island.

Jupiter is the king of our planets, by far the biggest, and if its moons we're after, Jupiter has at least 67 of them. The biggest four of those are easily visible through small telescopes, and even a decent pair of binoculars can pick them up. These four moons are called the Galilean moons, having been discovered in 1610 by Galileo Galilei

Believe it or not, a small telescope can even see Jupiter's upper-level clouds, which appear as broad bands.

Some libraries in the mainland are starting to allow patrons to borrow telescopes. The cases I'm aware of are loaning out 4.5-inch (that's the diameter) scopes made by an American company called Orion. These scopes should have no problem seeing Jupiter's cloud bands as long as the local sky, and the telescope, are in decent condition.

As for the Galilean moons, they put on quite a little cosmic ballet because they whirl around Jupiter so rapidly. If you take a couple of glances at them just a few hours apart, you can often notice that their relative positions have changed, or some have dropped out of sight, or some have popped into sight or, of course, some combination thereof. This show never gets old. I try to keep a small telescope at hand (a 4.5-inch Orion, as a matter of fact) so I can enjoy Jupiter without having to haul out my heavier stuff.

Well, we've accounted for Mercury and Jupiter this week, but NASA upstaged this action with a big announcement: The agency just unveiled the discovery of 1,284 planets outside of our solar system. Naturally, there's all sorts of speculation about which planets might be candidates for extra-terrestrial life, so if you're interested in such things, this is a good time to get an updated look at the science news.

All in all, then, it's been a good week for planets.

Trump's nickname for Clinton just might stick

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for The Los Angeles Times. *Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com*

Donald Trump dispatched his Republican rivals by branding them with an insulting but memorable nickname: "Lyin' Ted" Cruz, "Little Marco" Rubio. As the general election campaign nears, Trump has settled on a label for the likely Democratic nominee: "Crooked Hillary."

"It works," he boasted to The New York Times. "It flows."

The problem for Hillary Clinton is that he may be right.

All campaign long, pollsters have found that many voters — including some Democrats — don't think she's principled. Maybe it's her four decades in bare-knuckle politics, ancient questions about investment deals in Arkansas, her entanglement in her husband's personal scandals, her decision to set up a private email server when she was secretary of state, her big-dollar fundraising and speech fees — or all of the above. Fairly or not, Clinton can't shed her history.

In a Quinnipiac poll of swing states released this week, 69 percent of Ohio voters said they didn't think Clinton was honest and trustworthy, a daunting number. Trump was rated poorly too; 58 percent didn't view him as honest. But he'll take what he can get, because he performs worse than Clinton on almost every other measure.

That's not news to Clinton; she's seen numbers like that since the moment she announced her candidacy. "People should and do trust me," she protested last year, but the plea fell flat.

So what can Clinton do?

She'll start by doing her best to ignore Trump's jibes. He'd like nothing better than to lure her into a Nixonian response: "I am not crooked."

"Don't expect us to engage directly on his attacks like 'Crooked Hillary,'" a Clinton aide told me. "He does best when he gets others to engage in insults."

Instead, Clinton says her first response to Trump will be to change the subject to her strengths — her long list of policy proposals.

"I'm answering him all the time," she told reporters in Virginia on Monday. "I'm answering him on what I think voters care about" — issues such as child care and the federal minimum wage.

But that's only half the answer. Clinton is doing her best to label Trump too. Her new tag for Trump, unveiled this week: "loose cannon."

"I don't think we can take a risk on a loose cannon like Donald Trump to run our country," she said.

"He's going to have to be held to the standard we hold anybody running for president and commander in chief," she said earlier.

That's a lot more decorous than "Lyin' Ted" or "Little Marco." It's an above-the-belt jab, not a schoolyard taunt.

But it serves the same purpose: It spotlights Trump's biggest weakness in most voters' eyes — his biggest "negative," to use the political strategists' term. In Trump's case, it boils down to: Do you trust this man with the nuclear codes?

In that same Quinnipiac poll of Ohio voters, 63 percent said they did not think Trump had the temperament to handle an international crisis. (A bare majority, 51 percent, said they thought Clinton does.) Voters may not trust Clinton, but if they're afraid of a Trump presidency, it won't matter.

Still, there's one more thing Clinton can and should do on the "honesty" front:

Talk more about reforming the campaign finance system. That sounds counterintuitive, I know, because she's knee-deep in big-money fundraising, from Wall Street donors to super PACS.

She's caught in a familiar trap for Democratic candidates: She's denounced the campaign finance system, but she's using it to bankroll her election. When she launched her presidential bid, Clinton said campaign finance reform would be one of the four "pillars" of her platform. But aside from a speech outlining reform proposals last year, she hasn't talked about the issue much.

That's something she can fix, argues Fred Wertheimer, the patriarch of campaign reform advocates.

"She could commit to making clear that this is going to be a top priority. She could commit to asking her vice president to take this on," Wertheimer told me. "It won't eliminate the issue, but it will show that she's interested in taking on the system."

"One more thing," he added. "She lives in a rotten system just like everyone else. She should find a way to acknowledge that."

On that count, Clinton could take a page from one of her most ardent supporters, George Clooney. Last month, after he hosted dinners at which couples could contribute $353,400 for a place at Clinton's table, Clooney was refreshingly blunt.

"It's an obscene amount of money," he said. "It's ridiculous that we should have this kind of money in politics."

Clinton needs to say something like that — maybe even with Clooney sitting next to her. His negatives are lower than almost anyone's.

Both candidates have already shown their hands. The coming campaign, in case anyone had any doubt, will be a battle of the negatives." Which candidate will voters dislike more?

As political analyst Amy Walter put it, if the 2008 campaign was about hope and change, "2016 is going to be fear and loathing."

ENERGY

From Page 14

Snoozing: The term leadership includes the ability to see beyond the horizon as you deal with issues of substance dealing with the livelihood of your people.

By next year (2017), more of the larger firms in the health insurance industry would look for the exit door to Obamacare's Affordable Care Act exchange. It means higher health premiums everywhere including the NMI.

Central to this evolving shift is that at day's end state and territorial governments must fund where Medicaid ends.

Fiesta: In the deepening financial crisis, the expenditure of scarce public funds looks like "fiesta time" for this administration.

The struggle to remit funds to the Settlement Fund on a timely basis is a tale that doesn't need rocket science review. It's at the cursory level. Moreover, there's no money for medical referral, CHC, PSS, land compensation, utility debts, etc.

But there are tons of public funds for this administration and its cabinet to charter flights to Tinian and Rota purportedly for meetings so timed so they slide into weekend R&R and fiesta. All these at taxpayers' expense!

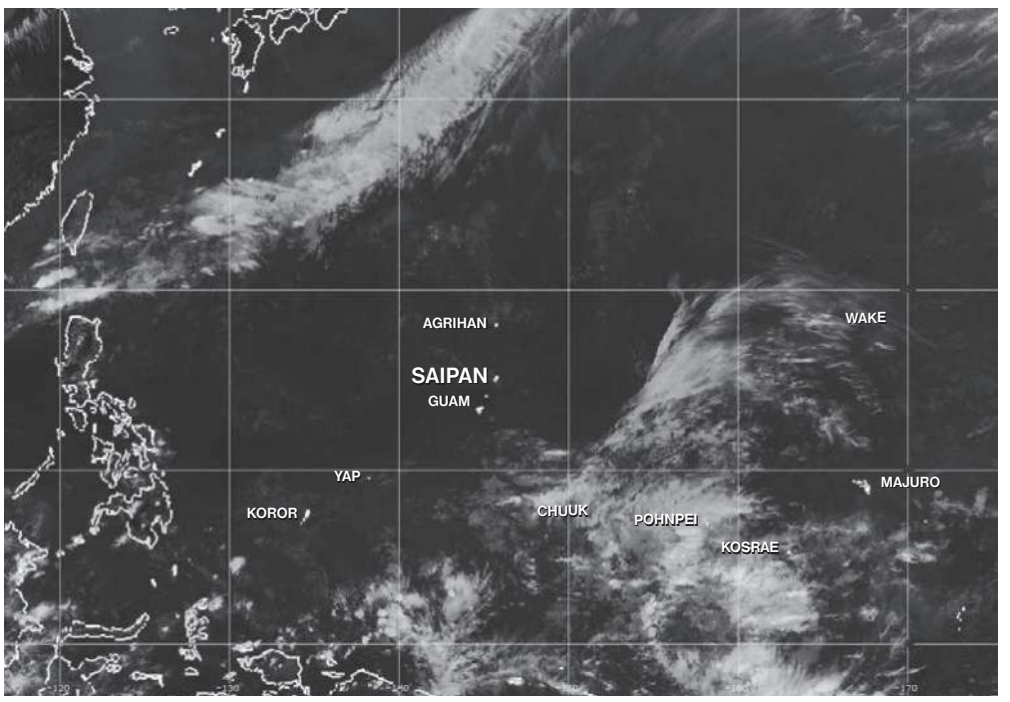
Is there a clandestine plan to increase taxes to cover for your excesses at taxpayers' expense again? Is the alternative bond flotation (loan) that would place debts on the future of our young people? Any sense of accountability in the apparent unbridled spending of public funds? Is the politics of rosy revenue projection (miscalculation) a justification to splurge at taxpayers' expense?

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging surface winds south of a stationary front near Okinawa are causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of a line from 21N130E to 25N137E. A surface trough reaches northwestward from EQ138E to end near Koror at 9N134E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring well south of Yap between the equator and 5N from 136E to 145E. Another surface trough runs northwestward from EQ160E to end north of Chuuk at 10N152E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found over Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae within 305 miles of a line from 9N153E to EQ161E and also farther northwest of Chuuk within 65 miles of a line from 7N146E to 14N157E. Trade-wind convergence is coupling with divergent upper-level winds to trigger scattered showers near Majuro within 70 miles of a line from 6N170E to 8N174E and also east of a line from 10N180 to 4N176E to 3N180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲90	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲70	▼60
Beijing	Windy	▲72	▼61
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼78
Honolulu	Mostly Cloudy	▲83	▼70
London	Mostly Sunny	▲66	▼44
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲84	▼58
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲96	▼78
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲70	▼55
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼72
New York	Sunny	▲74	▼56
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲76	▼60
Paris	Thundershowers	▲70	▼46
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼54
Rome	Thundershowers	▲68	▼57
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼52
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼52
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼53
Tokyo	Sunny	▲76	▼62
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼61

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:39 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
8:35 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
12:58 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
8:18 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Monday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM
Tuesday	5:48 AM	6:39 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:45 AM	
Saturday	12:36 PM	12:37 AM
Sunday	1:26 PM	1:20 AM
Monday	2:13 PM	2:00 AM
Tuesday	3:00 PM	2:38 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Northern Marianas Trades Institute director of External Relations Victorino Cepeda, left, and Century Insurance's David M. Sablan, second left, poses with NMTI students while posing with polo shirts donated by Tan Holdings.

Tan Holdings donates 300 polo shirts to NMTI

The Northern Marianas Trades Institute last May 2 received a donation of 300 polo shirts with its logo embroidered from Island Apparel, a Tan Holdings company. The bequest of the shirts is estimated to be valued at $4,500. Aside from the in-kind contribution, Tan Holdings has committed an additional $1,000 in funds, thus making their total contribution valued at $5,500. NMTI's post Soudelour efforts continue until this day. NMTI's staff are continuously renovating damaged classrooms not eligible for federal typhoon relief funding. The construction efforts are mainly aimed at accommodating for the growing interest in the community for such trades as automotive, culinary arts, construction, hotel, and restaurant occupations.

The trade school received the exciting news of the Tan Holdings donation from David M. Sablan of Century Insurance. Sablan was on hand to receive the NMTI students that were present for the official handing of the donation. Victorino Cepeda, director of External Relations said, "as many of our students are entering the job market, we are finding that businesses are happy with the skill sets earned. NMTI will continue to seek help from other enterprises as a community is only as strong as the members that comprise it."

The polo shirt donations will be sold by the school primarily to students and faculty to raise funds toward its classroom expansion efforts. "The contribution by one of Micronesia's largest conglomerates is an indication that they believe in what NMTI's function is within our community. We thank Tan Holdings for holding on to that belief and continuing to provide the much needed assistance" according to Agnes McPhetres, NMTI CEO. McPhetres' comment relates to her call for assistance from the business community to sponsor the erection of a new culinary arts classroom and other program functions in need of additional funds. ***(PR)***

Scheduled power interruption today

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there will be a scheduled power interruption on Friday, May 13, 2016, from 1pm to 5pm.

The purpose of the power interruption is to de-energize the primary lines to allow the CUC line crew to safely relocate main primary power poles and primary lines along Isa Dr. on Capitol Hill. The relocation work is required to be performed for the proposed Cross Island Road Improvement Phase 3 Project.

CUC greatly appreciates the understanding of the community during this period.

Water services may be affected in the area during the power interruption; however, all services should be restored after the power is re-energized.

Areas to be Affected: Feeder 4 (2nd partial): Southern side of Capitol Hill, Mt. Tapochao, Talofofo, I-Denii, and the 1200 Block.

Water Wells to be Affected: CH-1, CH-2, CH-3, TP-1.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/). ***(PR)***

CCA board meeting on Tuesday

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's Board of Directors will be holding its regular Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, May 17, 3pm at the CCA Conference Room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public.

CCA is a community-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting cancer awareness and prevention, providing patient support services, and serving as the liasion and advocate for cancer issues in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the region.

For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Our Natural Treasures

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) would like to extend our appreciation to all the groups and individuals who contributed to making this year's

Environmental Awareness Month a huge success.

(Over 4,000 people participated in various events throughout the month!)
Most especially, we would like to thank the following sponsors, supporters, and participants.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE Governor & Lt. Governor
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COSMOS Distributing Co., Ltd
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- REPRESENTATIVE Angel A. Demapan
- REPRESENTATIVE Ralph S. Demapan
- REPRESENTATIVE Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero
- REPRESENTATIVE Edwin K. Propst
- REPRESENTATIVE JP Sablan
- REPRESENTATIVE Francis S. Taimanao
- Asia Pacific Academy of Science, Education and Environmental Management (APASEEM)
- Best Sunshine – Corporate Social Responsibility (BSI-CSR)
- CNMI Coral Reef Initiative
- CNMI Division of Fish & Wildlife (DFW)
- CNMI DFW-Brown Tree Snake Program (BTS)
- CNMI DFW-Sea Turtle Program
- CNMI DFW-Marine Protected Areas (MPA)
- CNMI DFW-Enforcement
- CNMI DLNR– Division of Agriculture (DOA)
- CNMI DLNR-Forestry
- CNMI Public School System (PSS)
- CNMI PSS-Office of Pupil Transportation (OPT)
- Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC)
- Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA)
- Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC)
- CTSI Logistics
- D&Q Saipan / Cosmos Distributing
- Department of Community & Cultural Affairs (DCCA)
- DCCA Office of the Secretary
- DCCA Commonwealth Council of Culture & Arts (CCCA)
- DCCA Division of Youth Services (DCCA-DYS)
- DCCA Nutrition Assistance Program (DCCA-NAP)
- Department of Commerce / Enforcement Branch
- Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS)
- Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Department of Lands & Natural Resources (DLNR)
- Department of Labor (DOL)
- DFS Saipan Limited (DFS)
- Department of Public Lands (DPL)
- Department of Public Works (DPW)
- DPW Lower Base Transfer Station
- Department of Finance
- Garapan Elementary School (GES)
- Grace Christian Academy (GCA)
- Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School (GTC)
- Joeten Kiyu Public Library (JKPL)
- Kagman Elementary School – My Wave Club
- Kanoa Resort
- KKMP Radio
- Koblerville Elementary School
- Little Miss Good Earth 2016 Candidates – Uncle Ben's Studio
- Marianas Baptist Academy (MBA)
- Marianas High School
- MHS-Conservation Action Plan Committee (CAPC)
- Micronesia Challenge
- Mount Carmel School (MCS)
- Managaha Pride Campaign
- Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)
- Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance (MINA)
- MINA-TASI WATCH Rangers
- NOAA Fisheries – PIRO
- National Park Service (NPS)
- Northern Marianas College (NMC)
- NMC ENRO Club
- Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)
- Northern Islands Mayor's Office (NIMO)
- Office of the Mayor of Saipan (MOS)
- Office of the Mayor of Rota
- Office of the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan
- Oleai Elementary School
- Office of Personnel Management (OPM)
- Pacific Islands Club Saipan (PIC)
- POI Aviation
- Rita Hocog Inos Jr. Sr. High School
- Rota Avian Behavioral Ecology Project
- Rota CUC Water Division
- Rota CNMI-DLNR Forestry
- Grace Christian Academy (Rota)
- Sinapalo Elementary School
- Saipan International School
- Saipan Unity Lions Club
- San Vicente Elementary School (SVES)
- Sorensen Media Group / Power 99 FM
- William S. Reyes Elementary School (WSR)

"Your contributions and efforts help us ensure the protection of a clean and healthy environment of all people of the CNMI!"

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USS *Chicago* holds change of command

SANTA RITA, Guam— Cmdr. Brian Turney relieved Cmdr. Lance Thompson as commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS *Chicago* (SSN 721) during a ceremony on Naval Base Guam, May 12.

Capt. Jeffrey Grimes, commander, Submarine Squadron (SUBRON) 15 was the guest speaker for the ceremony. He congratulated Thompson and the crew of *Chicago* on a job well done.

"Lance and his crew have done an outstanding job, and I am incredibly proud of them," said Grimes. "*Chicago* is at the tip of the spear. They are where it matters, when it matters, ready to answer the call at all times. I know they will continue to do great things with Brian in command."

Chicago recently completed national tasking in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility, where the crew executed the Chief of Naval Operations' Maritime Strategy supporting national security interests and maritime security operations. Under Thompson's three-year command, *Chicago* successfully completed eight 7th Fleet operational periods, nine exercises, three theater anti-submarine warfare periods, five foreign port visits and ten foreign port stops for personnel. *Chicago* was also awarded the SUBRON 15 Battle "E" in both 2013 and 2014.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

USS *Chicago* (SSN 721) held a turnover ceremony yesterday on Naval Base Guam with Cmdr. Brian Turney relieving Cmdr. Lance Thompson as commanding officer of the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine.

Grimes presented Thompson with a Legion of Merit.

"I've done some incredible things with this crew, and it is bittersweet to be leaving them," said Thompson. "It's hard to describe the bond between submariners to anyone who isn't a part of the crew. The sense of family and togetherness makes us stronger and makes the *Chicago* crew the best in the Fleet. I'm leaving them in good hands, and I know they will continue to do great things after I leave today."

Thompson, a native of Kewanee, Illinois, has been selected for promotion to captain and is scheduled to report to SUBRON 15 as their senior deputy commander.

Turney is looking forward to his tenure as *Chicago*'s new commanding officer.

"I am excited to serve as your commanding officer and become a part of the crew," said Turney. "I know we will continue the professionalism and hard work I've already seen in my short time here and look forward to the adventures that lie ahead of us."

Turney's previous operational tours include serving as executive officer onboard USS *Albany* (SSN 753) and engineer officer on USS *West Virginia* (SBN 736) (Gold) and USS *Buffalo* (SSN 715), when it was homeported in Guam.

Chicago was commissioned September 27, 1986, and is the Navy's 34th Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine. Measuring 360 feet long and displacing more than 6,900 tons, *Chicago* has a crew of approximately 140 Sailors. Chicago is capable of supporting various missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike warfare, and intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance. *Chicago* is a member of SUBRON 15.

SUBRON 15 is located at Polaris Point, Naval Base Guam in Santa Rita, Guam, and consists of four Los Angeles-class attack submarines. The squadron staff is responsible for providing training, material and personnel readiness support to these commands. Also based out of Naval Base Guam are submarine tenders USS *Frank Cable* (AS 40) and USS *Emory S. Land* (AS 39). The submarines and tenders are maintained as part of the U.S. Navy's forward-deployed submarine force and are readily capable of meeting global operational requirements.

For more news from Commander, Submarine Squadron 15, visit http://www.csp.navy.mil/css15 and https://www.facebook.com/SubmarineSquadron15/. ***(PR)***

Military training at FDM, W-517

The CNMI Emergency Operations Center, in conjunction with U.S. Naval Forces Marianas (N3) Guam, would like to inform the general public that the U.S. Military Unit will be conducting Military Exercises at Farallon de Medinilla and Area W-517 Irregular Poly-Gon South of Guam. The schedule dates and time as as followed:

Date	TIME	LOCATION	UNIT'S AND TRAINING
May 17	11am-4pm	FDM	69 EBS Military Training
May 19	11am-4pm	FDM	69 EBS Military Training
May 16	12:30pm-4pm	W-517	69 EBS Military Training
May 17	11am-4pm	W-517	69 EBS Military Training
May 18	12:30pm-4pm	W-517	69 EBS Military Training
May 19	11am-4pm	W-517	69 EBS Military Training
May 20	12:30pm-4pm	W-517	69 EBS Military Training

The general location of this activity will be at Farallon de Medinilla on a 12-nautical mile radius on all quadrants and at Area w-517 Irregular Poly-Gon South of Guam comprising southwest into International waters.

Due to the danger imposed by these activities, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is strongly advising the general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the times and dates indicated.

The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the CNMI Emergency Operations Center-Dispatch Center at (670)237-8000, VHF Marine CHNL16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211 for this advisory. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-ITB-16-013

SALE AND REMOVAL OF SCRAP MATERIALS FROM THE WAREHOUSE

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is inviting interested individuals and firms to bid on CUC Scrap materials located in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained at no charge upon registration at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and One (1) copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-ITB-16-013, CUC Sale & Removal of Scrap Materials from the Warehouse"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 26, 2016, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Bidders must sign a Waiver of Liability, removing CUC's liability from claims resulting from violations relating to the removal and disposal of the scrap materials. CUC shall transfer and assign the scrap materials to the prospective bidder in an **"As is, Where is"** condition. By accepting the transfer and assignment, the bidder acknowledges that CUC has made no representation or warranties of the merchantability, quality, fitness, and condition of the scrap materials.

The scrap materials may be inspected by appointment only, between the hours of 9:00 AM thru 3:00 PM Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, by contacting CUC Warehouse Division at telephone no. 322-6585.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 13, 2016, to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Administrative Technician for Procurement via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-014

AS LITO WATER DISTRIBUTION UPGRADE AND REPLACEMENT/RELOCATION OF SERVICE LATERALS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of As Lito Water Distribution Upgrade and Replacement/Relocation of Service Laterals in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of new distribution lines, cut and cap of existing lines and tapping to existing mains. The work also includes the installation of new fire hydrants, flush hydrants, air relief valves, new water lateral connections, relocation and reconnection of existing water meters and asphalt pavement restoration, etc. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **May 19, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "*CUC-IFB-16-014, As Lito Water Distribution Upgrade and Replacement/Relocation of Service Laterals*" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 9, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 23, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Presentation by traditional navigator this Saturday

The public is invited to a special presentation by traditional navigator Sesario Sewalur this Saturday.

Sesario Sewralur is the son of master navigator Mau Piailug who teaches the traditional and ancestral way of navigating at the Palau Community College. He along with some of his crewmembers will share stories about their voyage and experience in traditional navigation. The public will also have the opportunity to see the double-hulled voyaging canoe designed by Mau called the *Alingano Maisu* up close.

Sesario and crew sailed from Palau on the *Alingano Maisu*. They will be leaving next week for the 2016 Pacific Arts Festival in Guam.

The presentation will be held at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan this Saturday, May 14, from 10am to 12pm. It is free and open to the public.

The presentation is sponsored by Bank of Guam, Bridge Capital, McDonald's, T Galleria, Chamolinian Cultural Village, Pacific Trading Co., Ocean Soul Society, and the Northern Marianas Humanities Council.

For more information, please contact council staff at 235-4785. ***(PR)***

Red Cross assists San Vicente, As Terlaje fire victims

Disaster Action Team volunteers from the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter responded to two separate fires last week in San Vicente and As Terlaje, providing immediate emergency assistance for 14 people. Red Cross assistance helps with temporary housing, food, clothing, and other immediate need items.

The Red Cross relies on financial contributions to provide help and comfort to disaster victims. You can help people affected by disasters like home fires by making a donation or by supporting the American Red Cross fundraising events. Your gift enables the Red Cross to prepare for, respond to, and help people recover from disasters big and small.

For information regarding the Red Cross, please contact Paul W. Camacho, Disaster Program manager at (670) 234-3459. ***(PR)***

The scene of the As Terlaje fire last week. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The scene of the San Vicente fire last week. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

WIC WOMEN • INFANTS • CHILDREN

ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Application for Tinian Vendors only.

Interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building #N-25 starting May 6, 2016 through May 20, 2016 (Monday to Friday) or request for an application via email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org.

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program office no later than 4:00 p.m., May 20, 2016.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4066, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or by facsimile at (670) 664-4069.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Esther L. Muna
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Erin Angela Camacho
WIC Program Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR CNMI WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

The Antidegradation Policy of the Water Quality Standards of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands states that the protection and maintenance of the quality of the waters of the Commonwealth are an historic and legal right of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, and that this shall be the public policy of the Commonwealth. Any proposed activity that will impact the waters of the Commonwealth must receive a Water Quality Certification from the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ). In issuing a Water Quality Certification, BECQ must assure that the proposed activity complies with all applicable provisions of the CNMI Water Quality Standards and federal Clean Water Act, will not interfere with the attainment or maintenance of the existing or designated uses of the Commonwealth waters, and that all appropriate and practicable steps have been taken to minimize potential adverse impacts to aquatic life and human health.

Upon receiving an application, BECQ issues a public notification which describes the proposed activity and potential impacts on water quality, aquatic life and human health. A thirty (30) day public comment period will commence from the date of the first publication of the notice.

The Administrator of BECQ may conduct a public hearing to solicit comments on the application if a hearing is requested by the public. BECQ will make a determination for issuing a Water Quality Certification based upon a complete technical review of the application and the public comments received.

BECQ is soliciting comments on the following application for a CNMI Water Quality Certification.

1. **APPLICANT:** Ms. Ciwon Choi, Entertainment Manager
   Micronesia Resort Incorporation DBA Kensington Hotel Saipan
   San Roque

2. **APPLICABLE STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** CNMI Commonwealth Environmental Protection Act (Public Law No. 3-23); CNMI Water Quality Standards, Chapter 65-130.

3. **LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY:** The Micronesia Resort Incorporated DBA Kensington Hotel is the former Palms Resort. It is located in the village of San Roque on the island of Saipan, CNMI.

4. **DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY:** The Kensington Hotel Saipan proposes to construct an inflatable floating aqua park. It will be located adjacent to the hotel in the nearshore waters of Saipan's lagoon. The aqua park has the potential to accommodate 145 people at any given time. Maximum dimension of this park will be 42 X 48 meters (138 X 158 feet). The inflatable floating aqua park will be secured to the ocean floor by a series of cement blocks.

5. **IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED ACTION:** Water quality issues may occur during instillation in particular when anchoring the floating park to the ocean floor, when removing objects from the ocean floor that could harm or hurt Kensington's customers and staff, and when deconstruction is triggered due to storm events.

Written comments and inquires should be submitted to BECQ within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication of this notice. Please mail comments to Administrator, Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-025

Opening Date: Friday, May 13, 2016
Closing Date: Until Filled

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking for a qualified Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager ("DM"). CUC is a public utility corporation, operating on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI")—a United States territory in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.

The CNMI is a tropical paradise of fourteen islands. In the CNMI you can escape to a place of magnificent beaches and crystal clear aqua waters, and rich history. Saipan offers year-round outdoor activities, world class diving and golfing, international shopping, a range of ethnic restaurants and a cacophony of indigenous and international cultures.

Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager ("DM")

RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:
Reporting directly to CUC's Deputy Executive Director or designee, the "DM" fills a position required by the Stipulated Order ("SO") of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Civil Case No. CV 08-0051.

- The incumbent of this position is under the direct supervision of the Deputy Executive Director (which may also be known as the Deputy Director for Water and Wastewater)
- Manages and oversees the CUC Drinking Water and Wastewater Division.
- Supervises employees in direct charge of drinking water systems' production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment plants utilizing activated sludge secondary treatment processes.
- Manages, leads, motivates, and develops staff towards attaining needed training, skills, and certifications.
- Participates in the management of drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; user fee system development.
- Other duties as required or assigned.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
- An equivalent to a four year college degree, and major work in engineering, or other field related to work with large-scale utilities;
- Five years of proven, specialized experience as a manager in direct charge of drinking water systems' production, treatment, and distribution, and wastewater collection and treatment plants utilizing activated sludge secondary treatment processes.
- Skills: Proven management and communication skills; Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff.
- Experience: Experience with managing drinking water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; Experience with drinking water and wastewater systems; user fee system development; staff training and development; and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.
- Knowledge: Through knowledge of the operating principles and maintenance requirements of at least three (3) million gallons per day ("mgd") of an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant including primary and secondary treatment processes, oxygen production, and sludge digestion and dewatering.
- Preferred Requirements:
  - o Bachelor's degree in Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Civil Engineering, Public Administration, or a degree related to the position.
  - o Current (unexpired) level 3 certifications from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, or the District of Columbia in water treatment, and water distribution.
  - o Current (unexpired) level 2 certifications from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, or the District of Columbia in wastewater treatment, and wastewater distribution.

LOCATION:
SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY INFORMATION:
Based on specialized experience as a water and wastewater utility manager in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia. Also, based on educational achievement and specific (unexpired) certifications stated in this ad as preferred requirements.

POSITION:
One (1).

CONTRACT:
Two-year; subject to renewal.

RELOCATION EXPENSES:
If hired from outside the CNMI, relocation expenses are negotiable; but they are not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving to Saipan and not to exceed $5,000.00 for moving away from Saipan. Receipts will be required for justification. Other conditions may be applicable.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.
Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

TYPHOON SOUDELOR UPDATE:

Docomo Pacific 100 pct restored in CNMI

TAMUNING, Guam—After nine months of actively working toward maintenance and repairs in the CNMI due to the devastation caused by Typhoon Soudelor back in August 2015, Docomo Pacific is pleased to announce restoration is now 100 percent complete.

"As a company that is committed to bringing you and your family closer to the things that matter most, our first priority was to restore normalcy to the lives of our customers," said Thomas Higa, chief commercial officer for Docomo Pacific.

Despite the challenges, Docomo Pacific took these circumstances as an opportunity to evaluate its presence in this region and make decisions that would actually increase investments in the CNMI community.

Benefits now include subscribers being able to enjoy live television programming. Prior to the storm all channels with the exception of a few were recorded in Guam and played on Saipan on a one week delayed schedule.

More notably work is now focused on the recently launched project ATISA which includes installation of 28 miles of underground fiber optic infrastructure from Guam to Rota, Saipan, and Tinian.

ATISA will enable Docomo Pacific to offer new and sustainable wireless, cable television, and broadband Internet services to homeowners who can look forward to speeds of 30 to 60.0 Mbps.

CNMI residents will also experience epic advancements in:

- Telemedicine: Doctors, clinics, and hospitals can quickly share patient data with off island experts
- Education: Provides schools & libraries with reliable, high-speed connections for e-learning
- Allows CNMI to fully participate in federally-funded programs
- Economic Growth: Data use stimulates growth
- Encourages private sector investment through tourism, hotels, etc.
- Provides redundancy and security for public safety to banks, airport, etc.

Completion of ATISA is anticipated toward the latter part of 2017.

Docomo Pacific is a wholly owned subsidiary of NTT DOCOMO, predominant mobile phone operator in Japan. Headquartered in Tamuning, Guam, Docomo Pacific is the largest provider of telecommunications and entertainment services serving Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

With award-winning mobile, television, internet and telephone services, Docomo Pacific is dedicated to bringing you and your family closer to the things that matter most. Get to know more about what makes us "better together" at http://www.docomopacific.com. ***(PR)***

VICENTE T. SALAS, ESQ.
Law Office Of Vicente T. Salas
P.O. Box 501309, San Jose
2nd Floor, MIC Building
SAIPAN, MP 96950-1309
Telephone No. (670) 234-7455
Telecopier No. (670) 234-7256

Attorney for: Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, -vs- VINCENT A. MANGLONA, BENITA A. MANGLONA, V.B. MANGLONA ENTERPRISES, TONGA GARDENS, PASEO DRIVE INCORPORATED, GUAM ISLA LP GAS AND APPLIANCE and MOBIL OIL MICRONESIA, INC. Defendants.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0194-CV **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, CNMI Marshal, or any other person authorized by law hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Vincent A. Manglona and Benita A. Manglona in the following described, real properties situated in Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Fee simple title to:

Tract No. 22102, Rota, containing an area of 25,000 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2048/77 the original of which was registered 23 APR 79 as Document No. 8162 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Tract No 22214, Rota, containing an area of 25,000 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3017/87 the original of which was registered 28 FEB 89 as Document No. 89-0624 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 053 R 01, Rota, containing an area of 535 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 053 R 00 the original of which was registered 19 JAN 94 as Document No. 94-0176 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 001 R 07, Rota, containing an area of 836 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 R 00 the original of which was registered 21 NOV 71 as Document No. 1288 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Leasehold Interest to:

Lot No. 017 R 01, Rota, containing an area of 929 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 017 R 00 the original of which was recorded 29 JUL 87 as Document No. 87-2715 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 044 R 04, Rota, containing an area of 6,626 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 044 R 00 the original of which was registered 28 APR 77 as Document No. 6031 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Lot No. 044 R 12, Rota, containing an area of 3,197 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 044 R 00 the original of which was registered 28 APR 77 as Document No. 6031 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Lot No. 001 R 25, Rota, containing an area of 735 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 R 00 the original of which was registered 12 NOV 71 as Document No. 1288 at Land Registry, Saipan.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m. on Friday May 27. 2016.** subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**

2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.

3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.

4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235 7147; or to Vicente T. Salas, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234 7256.

5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.

6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Vincent A. Manglona and Benita A. Manglona in the property and any improvements thereon are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 04 day of May, 2016.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

CHARITY R. HODSON (F0487)
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 502607 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-1615
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Petitioner Linda Koshiro

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF TETSUO KOSHIRO, Deceased.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 15-0150 AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL DECREE OF DISTRIBUTION** **Date: May 31, 2016** **Time: 1:30 p.m.** **Judge: David A. Wiseman**

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE TETSUO KOSHIRO OR HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Linda Koshiro** and **Esther Koshiro**, Co-Administratrices of the Estate of Tetsuo Koshiro, have filed with the Superior Court of theCommonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands a Petition for Final Decree of Distribution. The attorney for Petitioner is **Charity R. Hodson, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 502607, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition for Final Decree of Distribution is scheduled to be heard on **May 31, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.** at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands on Saipan. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Dated on 25th day of April, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court
Deputy Clerk of Court

EVM thanks Legislature, Youth Congress for resolution

Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation members are honored and humbled to receive a Resolution of Recognition from the 19th Legislature and the 15th CNMI Youth Congress.

"We extend appreciation to the House of Representatives for recognizing Aloha for Saipan's and Operation Pacific Northwest's efforts in organizing three 40-foot containers of relief goods. These items were major contributions to EVM," said Empty Vessel Ministry.

The non-profit charity added, "We greatly appreciate the partnership with the lawmakers who assisted us through their donated resources and their aid in distribution, offloading, and transportation. The Governor's Office was gracious to provide funds to cover the cost of lunches for the volunteers. It was a team effort and we could not have done without the partners and everyone who donated their time and resources to help out. We remain committed to help people until they get back on their feet in this long-term recovery."

Empty Vessel Ministry also extended its special thanks to the 151 local individuals, 20 businesses, various organizations, and schools that contributed financial donations, clothing, food, water, and bedding.

"The generosity of everyone who helped EVM in different ways enabled us to assist more than 6,000 individuals. Many of the clients we aided or visited shared inspiring stories of hope that encourages us to do more. One client—a businessman—was devastated after Soudelor. The family had lost everything including their business assets. They salvaged only blankets, which they donated to EVM. The businessman's wife was pregnant and had one child and they were in desperate need of food, water, and clothes. Soudelor had rendered the businessman and his family somewhat homeless but they were grateful for the basic supplies and for FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) rental assistance. The client has recovered. Today his business is thriving. He is grateful to everyone who donated to EVM because it was the care and love of donated items that assisted him in time of need," said Empty Vessel Ministry. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 15th CNMI Youth Congress presents a resolution of recognition to Empty Vessel Ministry for their contributions during response effort after Typhoon Soudelor.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) presents a resolution to Empty Vessel Ministry from the Senate.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The House of Representatives presents a resolution to Aloha for Saipan and Operations Pacific Northwest.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Empty Vessel Ministry board members present a plaque of apreciation to L.J. Duenas of Aloha for Saipan and Yvette Sablan of Operation Pacific Northwest for their major contributions for Soudelor response.

In Humble Gratitude

†**Alliluyeva Maria**

Hosono Sablan

"Allie"

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to everyone, near and far, for their thoughtful expressions of sympathy and support as we mourned the loss of our beloved Allie.

Allie was a beautiful and generous soul who loved to laugh and loved listening to music. Her feistiness and loud personality will forever be missed. Allie was someone who loved life and would not want anyone to be sad about her passing. So when you feel a bit of sadness when you think of Allie, play a good song, open a cold one, and think of the fun memories you shared with her. She would not have it any other way...

Thank You

The Family

Nation

Defiant Trump brushes off GOP critics on eve of Ryan meeting

WASHINGTON (AP)—Donald Trump declared Wednesday he doesn't need support from House Speaker Paul Ryan or other leery Republican leaders, brushing off his Capitol Hill critics even as he prepared to sit down with them. His defiant message came amid new signs that he might be right, with GOP voters becoming more willing to embrace the New York billionaire.

Their public differences are overshadowing the GOP rank and file's movement toward Trump and his own efforts to broaden his appeal as general election campaign takes shape.

"If we make a deal, that will be great," Trump told Fox News Channel when asked about Thursday's meeting with Ryan, who has so far refused to endorse him. "And if we don't, we will trudge forward like I've been doing and winning all the time."

AP
House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wis. speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, May 11, 2016.

Trump's allies echoed his contention that he can claim the White House with or without leading congressional Republicans, who continue to express reservations about his tone and inconsistent policy prescriptions. Their public differences are overshadowing prospective voters' movement toward Trump and his own efforts to broaden his appeal as the general election campaign takes shape.

His likely November opponent, Democrat Hillary Clinton, still has Sen. Bernie Sanders opposing her for her party's nomination. But she all but ignored him Wednesday as she campaigned in Blackwood, New Jersey.

She focused instead on Trump's statement in an Associated Press interview that he doesn't plan to release his tax returns until an ongoing audit is completed. Should Trump not release his returns before the November election it would mark a break from precedent for presidential nominees.

"So you've got to ask yourself why doesn't he want to release it? Yeah, well, we're going to find out," Clinton told supporters.

Meanwhile, more Republican voters appear to be moving behind Trump, despite big-name holdouts such as Ryan, both former president Bushes and the party's 2012 nominee Mitt Romney.

Almost two in three Republican-leaning voters now view Trump favorably, compared to 31 percent who view him unfavorably, according to a national Gallup Poll taken last week. The numbers represent a near reversal from Gallup's survey in early March.

North Carolina's transgender law creates tangle of lawsuits

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—The dueling lawsuits over North Carolina's law on bathroom use by transgender people have landed in the hands of three federal judges appointed by Republican presidents, with both sides trying to maneuver into the most favorable courtroom possible.

Legal experts expect some or all of the five cases to be combined. But it remains to be seen whether they will be decided in the court picked by the law's opponents for its moderate reputation, or in the more conservative court chosen by the measure's GOP supporters.

"This is definitely a strategic decision by the plaintiffs to file in the district they like best," said Tom Metzloff, a Duke University law professor and expert on civil procedure.

Either way, the dispute could ultimately be headed for the U.S. Supreme Court for a ruling once and for all on whether federal laws including the Civil Rights Act of 1964 protect transgender people from discrimination.

At issue is a state law that says transgender people must use public bathrooms, showers and changing rooms that correspond to the sex on their birth certificate. Supporters say the law is needed to safeguard people's privacy and protect women and children from molesters. Opponents, including the Obama administration, say the danger is imaginary and the law discriminatory.

With economic pressure on the state mounting, the U.S. Justice Department and North Carolina's governor sued each other over the measure Monday. Lawsuits for and against the law have also been filed by the American Civil Liberties Union, leaders of the Republican-controlled state Legislature, and a conservative legal organization.

IN HUMBLE GRATITUDE
Si Yu'us Ma'ase

We the family of the late

†Ernest Mangarero Sablan

Wish to express our sincerest appreciation and gratitude to all our friends and relatives who came to be with us during the most difficult time in our lives when we lost our beloved. Our beloved †Ernest was a devoted husband, faithful friend, and loving father and grandfather. Our grandchildren adored him deeply and a great feeling of emptiness has been felt.

Your presence, your thoughts, and most especially your love and support for us have helped us to endure pain of our loss. It is very comforting to know and see the many people who came and shared these moments with us, and for these, we are forever grateful.

With sincere gratitude, we thank Fr. Kenneth Hezel, SJ. for the guidance and prayers and most especially for presiding over the Mass of Christian Burial, Fr Sid Ogumoro, Fr. Jesse Reyes and Fr. Rey Rosal who assisted in the celebration. With grateful hearts we thank Fr. Jose Villagomez, Fr. Eric Forbes and the alumni of Father Duenas Memorial High School-Guam for grieving and praying with us on Guam. To Marcy P. Cepeda , our rosary techa and Tan Ko Palacios, the cathedral's sacristan – *Si Yu'us Ma'ase.*

Our appreciation extends to the doctors, nurses and staff of CHCC and GMH for the care and compassion given to our beloved. To Mr. Ton Agulto of the CNMI Medical Referral Office, Si Yu'us Ma'ase. Thank you to the Olomwaay Family Choir for the lovely liturgical music during the Eucharistic Celebration.

To our families, relatives and friends who have helped us in anyway – *Si Yu'us Ma'ase.*

Elizabeth Camacho Sablan, Children and Family

World

Malaysia: 2 more pieces 'almost certainly' from Flight 370

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysia's government said Thursday that two more pieces of debris, discovered in South Africa and Rodrigues Island off Mauritius, were "almost certainly" from Flight 370, which mysteriously disappeared more than two years ago with 239 people on board.

The announcement means a total of five pieces of debris from the Malaysian Airlines' jet have now been discovered in various spots around the Indian Ocean since it vanished on March 8, 2014, while flying from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing.

Transport Minister Liow Tiong Lai said the two new pieces were an engine cowling piece with a partial Rolls-Royce logo and an interior panel piece from an aircraft cabin. This was the first interior part found from the missing plane.

An international team of experts in Australia who examined the debris concluded that both pieces were consistent with panels found on a Malaysia Airlines' Boeing 777 aircraft, Liow said.

"As such, the team has confirmed that both pieces of debris from South Africa and Rodrigues Island are almost certainly from MH370," he said in a statement.

In March, investigators confirmed two pieces of debris found along Mozambique's coast were almost certainly from the aircraft. Last year, a wing part from the plane washed ashore on France's Reunion Island.

Flight 370 is believed to have crashed somewhere in a remote stretch of the southern Indian Ocean about 1,800 kilometers (1,100 miles) off Australia's west coast. An ongoing search has found nothing so far. Authorities had predicted that any debris from the plane that isn't on the ocean floor would eventually be carried by currents to the east coast of Africa.

Bombings kill 93 in Iraqi capital's bloodiest day this year

BAGHDAD (AP)—In the deadliest violence in Baghdad this year, three car bombs claimed by the Islamic State group killed 93 people across the Iraqi capital Wednesday, demonstrating the extremists' ability to mount significant attacks despite major battlefield losses.

The separate bombings, which also wounded 165 people, came at a time of turmoil and deadlock in Iraq's government and parliament. The Interior Ministry blamed the attacks on "political bickering" that is increasingly threatening the security of the civilian population.

The largest car bomb ripped through a crowded outdoor market selling food, clothing and household goods in the predominantly Shiite neighborhood of Sadr City during the morning, killing at least 63 people and wounding 85.

Streets were stained with blood, building facades were heavily damaged and smoke billowed from stores gutted by the blast. Dozens of people walked through mangled wreckage of cars and other debris as ambulances ferried away the injured.

The bomb was in a pickup truck loaded with fruit and vegetables. It was parked by a man who had quickly disappeared into the crowd, said Karim Salih, a 45-year-old grocer who escaped injury.

"It was such a thunderous explosion that jolted the ground," Salih told The Associated Press. "The force of the explosion threw me for meters away and I lost consciousness for a few minutes."

The sprawling slum of Sadr City is home to 2.5 million people—almost half of Baghdad's population of about 6 million.

Two more car bombs exploded elsewhere in the afternoon, killing at least 30 and wounded 80, police officials said. One bomb targeted a police station in the northwestern Kadhimiyah neighborhood, while another struck in the northern neighborhood of Jamiya.

The casualty figures were released by medical officials who all spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief reporters.

Philippine poll chief to Marcos: Prove vote count anomaly

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine election officials challenged Sen. Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. on Wednesday to prove his allegation of irregularities in the counting of votes for vice president, where he has been overtaken by his closest rival.

They also rejected Marcos' request for a stop to the unofficial tally by an accredited citizens' watchdog, which uses the same election returns that are transmitted to the Commission on Elections.

The son of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos Sr. had initially led the partial count by the watchdog known by its acronym PPCRV. But as of Wednesday afternoon, the administration's candidate, Rep. Leni Robredo, was leading by more than 230,000 votes, putting her 0.6 percentage points ahead of Marcos.

The tally is based on results from 95.5 percent of precincts nationwide. Ballots from overseas Filipinos are now considered crucial in the race for vice president.

Rodrigo Duterte, the bombastic mayor of southern Davao city, is poised to become the new president, based on PPCRV results that gave him an unassailable lead.

The official count and proclamation of the president and vice president are done by Congress, which will convene May 24.

If Marcos wins, that would put him a step away from the presidency 30 years after his late father was ousted by a public uprising amid allegations of plunder and widespread human rights abuses.

On Tuesday, Marcos campaign adviser Rep. Jonathan dela Cruz said they sent an urgent request to the Commission on Elections to halt the PPCRV count because it showed "an alarming and suspicious trend" contrary to independent exit polls and the campaign's estimates.

"These accusations are not true ... we are committed to being impartial, to be neutral," elections commission chairman Andres Bautista said.

Message of Appreciation

Takeo Jose Nena George

March 8, 1942-April 18, 2016

For everything, there is a reason. And for every reason, a season. He taught his family the POWER OF LOVE, a love reflected not only in his words but in his unselfish acts. A simple man, he leaves us with an eternal season of love in our hearts. We thank our heavenly father for a blessed life of love, laughter, and happiness with our beloved Takeo.

To our relatives and friends near and far who shared in prayer and contributed either monetary or in-kind, to those who attended daily mass and nightly rosaries, and to those who were unable to join us, who shared a kind thought or prayer, we are humbled and honored by the outpour of unconditional love, kindness, and support.

A special thank you to Reverend Father Ryan Jimenez and all the clergy, Tan Ko Palacios, Mrs. Rosa Sablan Cabrera (techa), Governor's Office, Mayor's Office, DPS, CNMI and Hawaii Medical Referral staff, CHCC, PMC, Borja Funeral Home staff, St. Jude Thaddeus Choir, Kosraean choir, and all other participating choirs and individuals, Auntie Mag's Catering, Blossoms Floral, Pagoda Hotel and "Pagoda Family," and all others that assisted. No words can precisely express our heartfelt gratitude for all you've done for us.

Thank You, Un Dankulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Kulo Malalap, Ghilisoow, Domo Arigato, and Salamat Po.

With Loving Hearts and Prayers

Magdalena Sablan George,
Glenda and Jeffrey
and
Sablan (Pepero) and Nena/George Families

Life & Style

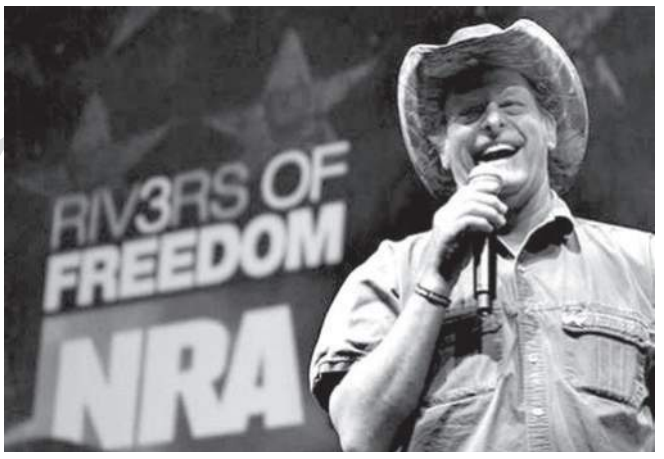
If Donald Trump held a concert, who might perform?

NEW YORK (AP)—While Elton John and Katy Perry have hit the stage for Democratic presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton, and supporters of opponent Bernie Sanders include Bonnie Raitt and Flea of the Red Hot Chili Peppers, presumptive Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump's Rolodex of musicians-slash-friends is short. Really short.

Instead, he's found himself on the flip side of friendship since he announced his candidacy last summer, with musicians from Adele to the Rolling Stones asking Trump to stop using their music at rallies and in campaign ads. Despite that, Trump wants to mix things up during the four-day Republican National Convention in July, where he says concerts could be useful to break up "plenty of political speeches."

"The concept of some entertainment from a great singer, a great group I think would be something maybe to break things up," Trump said in an interview this week with The Associated Press.

Here's the short list of musicians who could potentially offer their talents at a Trump event.



AP

In this May 1, 2011 file phot, musician and gun rights activist Ted Nugent addresses a seminar at the National Rifle Association's 140th convention in Pittsburgh.

AARON CARTER

While he's probably struggling to sell concert tickets, Aaron Carter could find a new platform on a stage for Trump. The baby bro to Backstreet Boys' Nick Carter first said he was ready to vote for Trump but later changed his mind. "I've been bullied so badly because of it I don't even want to vote now," he tweeted. But would Trump endorse Carter singing his 2000 hit "Aaron's Party (Come Get It)" in 2016? He may not have a choice. He's got slim pickings.

KID ROCK

If there's anyone who can make Trump seem sort of hip, it's Kid Rock. The candid Detroiter, who supported Mitt Romney in 2012, told Rolling Stone magazine that Trump's campaign was entertaining but he also trusted his business acumen. "Let the business guy in there. It's not really working too well running it not like a business," he said.

LORETTA LYNN

Following Rock, Loretta Lynn, 84, could easily be the headlining act and highlight at a Trump concert. In fact, Lynn was predicting a Trump presidency all the way back in December when she told Billboard that he would be the next leader of the U.S.

WAYNE NEWTON

Wayne Newton, aka Mr. Las Vegas, has made it clear that when it comes to Trump, he's thinking "Danke Schoen." ''Number one, he tells the truth," Newton told "Fox and Friends" in October about Trump. "He's been where most of these guys want to be in terms of riding on his own plane. He doesn't have to worry about what hotels he stays in. Doesn't have to worry about how his family gets to Hawaii, so on and so forth."

AZEALIA BANKS

Rapper Azealia Banks, like Trump, is outspoken and used to taking heat for her opinions. In fact, her endorsement of Trump in February was part of a series of tweets, including one that said "I think Donald trump is evil like America is evil and in order for America to keep up with itself it needs him." Just one problem though: it would be difficult to actually name a Banks song as she's become more famous for her Twitter rants than her music.

TILA TEQUILA

Tila Tequila might be best known for her bisexual dating reality show and her anti-Semitic rants. But yes, she is a singer. Though not a good one. And Tequila has spoken highly of Trump. They also both have been at the center of controversy over questionable remarks: Trump was targeted early in his campaign for calling Latinos coming to the U.S. from Mexico "killers" and "rapists," while Tequila called Adolf Hitler a "brilliant artist" and has defended him in the past.

TED NUGENT

"Know it, Donald Trump is the hellraiser America has needed for a very longtime," rocker and gun-lover Ted Nugent wrote on his Facebook page.

Madonna to honor Prince at Billboard Awards

NEW YORK (AP)—The Material Girl will pay tribute to The Purple One with a live performance at the Billboard Music Awards this month.

Billboard and dick clark productions told The Associated Press on Wednesday that Madonna will honor Prince at the May 22 show. Specific details about the performance weren't revealed.

Prince was found dead on April 21 in his suburban Minneapolis home at age 57.

The Billboard Awards will air live on ABC from the T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas. Ludacris and Ciara will host the show, which will include performances by Britney Spears, Justin Bieber, the Go-Go's, Celine Dion and Pink.

Nominees for top artist include Adele, Bieber, Drake, Taylor Swift and the Weeknd.

AP

In this Nov. 29, 2008 file photo, Madonna, center, performs in Mexico City.

Prince performed at the 2013 Billboard Awards, where he received the icon award.

Lucasfilm and Disney launching 'The Star Wars Show' online

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Force is so strong with the "Star Wars" franchise that Lucasfilm and Disney are producing a weekly online video series about it.

"The Star Wars Show" is debuting Wednesday on YouTube, Facebook, StarWars.com and other online channels. Lucasfilm says the weekly series will celebrate "the franchise, fans and fun of the world of 'Star Wars.'"

While there are already several ongoing online series dedicated to "Star Wars" fandom, Lucasfilm says "The Star Wars Show" will stand out by offering exclusive news, never-before-seen footage and behind-the-scenes looks at "Star Wars" films, shows and games.

"The Star Wars Show" will be hosted by actor and "Star Wars" superfan Peter Townley and StarWars.com digital communications manager Andi Gutierrez.

Avoiding stairs in fire drill gets out of hand in high-rise

DEAR ABBY: I am the building manager of a high-rise office building. Every year we perform a fire alarm test to determine that all our fire alarm systems work properly. Employees in the building must evacuate in a timely manner.

Two years ago, a very overweight woman told me she had a heart condition and could not make it down the stairs during the drill. I told her to proceed to the stairwell, have one of her co-workers give me her location and in the event of a fire I'd send a fireman up to get her. A year later, another obese woman told me she, too, couldn't make it down the stairs. Word has gone out in the building. Now 10 other women have asked to be added to the "list" so they won't have to descend the stairs.

I have nightmares about these women standing in stairwells waiting for firemen to help them during a real fire. I have a call in to my local fire chief to see what he/she thinks I should do. Have you any thoughts on this matter?

WORRIED BUILDING MANAGER

DEAR BUILDING MANAGER: Employees who are disabled need to know the evacuation plan in place for their safety. If others are taking advantage of the system set up for people with disabilities in order to avoid going down the stairs, it is unfair to everyone.

I took your question to Austin, Texas, Fire Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr, president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), and to Allan Fraser, senior building code specialist at the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Both expressed concern that you would create a "list," because lists can become out-of-date or misplaced and of no use when a fire occurs. People quit, get fired, go on vacation, are home sick, etc. on any given workday.

The late chair of NFPA's Disability Access Review and Advisory Committee Bill Scott—who was a wheelchair user—often said, "Everyone, regardless of their disability, has some responsibility to ensure his or her own safety." Being dependent on others for rescue can be a recipe for disaster.

NFPA offers a free Emergency Evacuation Planning Guide for People With Disabilities, available for download at www.nfpa.org/disabilities. Chief Kerr and Mr. Fraser recommend you get it. I hope you will take them up on the suggestion, and be a stickler for compliance.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I'm a dad whose children are growing up fast, and our second will soon be out of diapers. Before that happens, I need to get clarity on public diaper behavior.

Often I find myself at a restaurant when it smells like it's time to change the diaper. Instead of running to the bathroom for a false alarm, I (and most parents I know) pull back the back of the diaper to check while we're in the middle of the restaurant.

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Is this bad manners or considered to be practical behavior?

ON THE SCENT OUT WEST

DEAR ON THE SCENT: Pulling back the diaper should not be necessary. Experienced parents know what a clean and empty diaper looks and feels like. Others just pick up their child to determine if he or she passes the "sniff" test. I suggest this is what you do until your child is out of diapers.

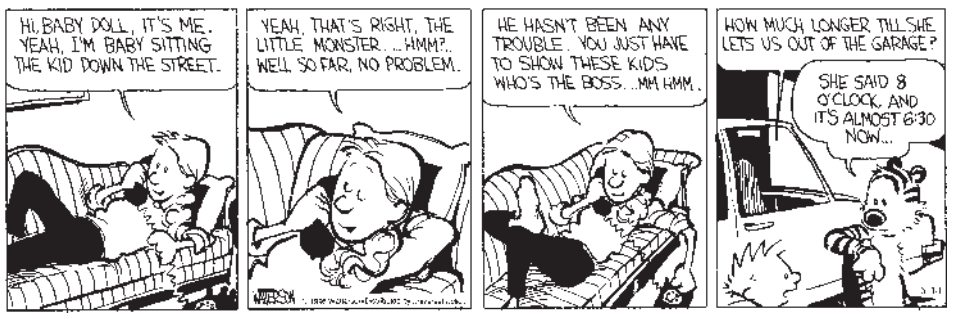
■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HI, BABY DOLL, IT'S ME. YEAH, I'M BABY SITTING THE KID DOWN THE STREET.
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT, THE LITTLE MONSTER. ...HMM?.. WELL, SO FAR, NO PROBLEM.
HE HASN'T BEEN ANY TROUBLE. YOU JUST HAVE TO SHOW THESE KIDS WHO'S THE BOSS. MM HMM.
HOW MUCH LONGER TILL SHE LETS US OUT OF THE GARAGE?
SHE SAID 8 O'CLOCK, AND IT'S ALMOST 6:30 NOW...

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

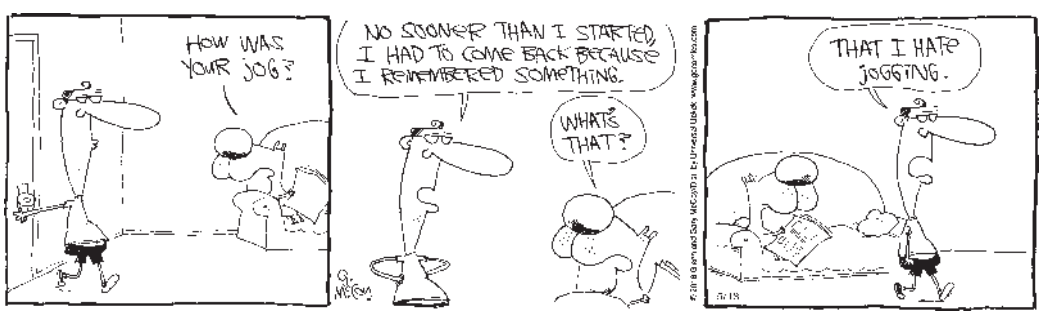
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HOW CAN YOU READ THOSE BOOKS?
PONY BERRIES? THEY'RE THE GREATEST BOOKS EVER!
PSSH. GIVE ME A "LIFE OF ZARF"... A "BIG NATE"... A "DESMOND PUCKET"...
I HAVE CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS IN MY FICTION.
SNOT JOKES?
I KNOW WHAT I LIKE!
I DO LOVE A WELL-PLACED SNOT JOKE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Woman of letters?
6 Chest bone
9 Hosp. parts
12 Jubilant shout
13 Docs' org.
14 Bill's partner
15 Enjoy
16 Ice cream flavor
18 Steamy
20 Polio vaccine discoverer
21 100%
23 Diarist Anais
24 Carries
25 Future tulip
27 Oyster's prize
29 Online messages
31 Porter
35 Faithful
37 Buffalo's lake
38 Long rides?
41 Pod veggie
43 Ornate vase
44 TV's Trebek
45 Seafood soup
47 Great ape
49 Vacant, as a flat
52 Egg (Pref.)
53 Corn spike
54 Had a bug
55 Collection
56 Bashful
57 Big Dipper points

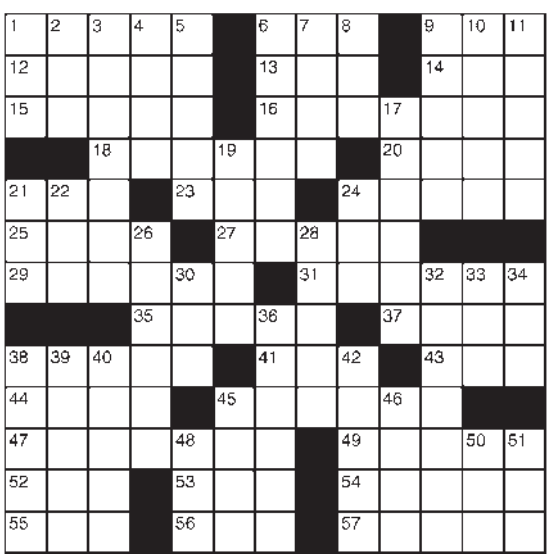
DOWN

1 Beetle and Rabbit
2 "Eureka!"
3 "Billy Budd," for one
4 Former queen of Jordan
5 Chef's garb
6 Gorge
7 Apple computer
8 Prohibit
9 Brilliance
10 Esther of "Good Times"
11 Saturates
17 Tristan's love
19 A bit lit
21 Jurist Fortas
22 Abner's old radio partner
24 Three, in Rome
26 Mississippi city
28 Van Gogh venue
30 — Alamos
32 Disney villainess — de Vil
33 Melody
34 Corral
36 Beekeeper's place
38 Port of Nigeria
39 "— Lucy"
40 Deserve
42 Blue hues
45 Humdrum
46 Squad
48 Guitar master Paul
50 Always, in verse
51 QBs' goals

Solution time: 26 mins.

S	I	F	C		A	L	B		I	S	A	N
P	A	L	O		L	O	O		B	Y	T	E
E	V	E	R		F	A	T		E	M	I	T
C	A	V	I	A	R		H	E	R	M	E	S
			A	I	E			S	I	E		
A	S	S	N		S	Y	M	P	A	T	H	Y
B	O	Y			C		A			R	I	O
S	Y	M	P	H	O	N	Y		H	Y	M	N
		P	A	S			F	R	Y			
F	R	C	N	T	S		L	A	D	O	G	
L	O	S	T		H	O	I		H	I	V	E
E	D	I	E		O	R	E		E	V	A	N
D	E	A	D		D	A	S		N	A	L	A

Yesterday's answer 5-13



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lena Dunham, 30; Robert Pattinson, 30; Stephen Colbert, 52; Stevie Wonder, 66.

Happy Birthday: Your changing attitude will confuse the people you live with, causing problems within your relationships that can stifle your plans if you are not careful. It's important to listen and compromise if you want to avoid emotional situations that can be costly or leave you feeling alienated. Concentrate on making personal improvements instead of trying to change others. Your numbers are 4, 10, 18, 22, 29, 37, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Start a new project and make wise choices about picking people you can collaborate with. Stay in tune with your plans and make changes based on what will bring you closest to your destination. Make your journey one to remember. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You'll have plenty on your mind and lots to deal with. Don't let emotions interfere with what you need to accomplish. Set your mind on the results you want and work hard until you get your way. Romance is featured. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Take a closer look at your domestic situation and your relationships with others. It's time to weed out anyone or anything that is not good for you. Secrets and temptations will cost you mentally, emotionally and financially. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Take the path of least resistance. Acceptance will be the key to discovering new and better ways to do things. Someone unexpected will influence you. Share your thoughts and feelings and be receptive to love and romance. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Be wary of someone who is trying to push you in a direction you are not comfortable with. Be prepared to do your own thing instead. Personal development and fitness programs will boost your energy level and confidence. Live in the moment. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Keep an open mind, but don't give in to someone who is trying to pressure you through unscrupulous methods. A change at home may not be welcome, but the end result will be to your benefit. Put your priorities first. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't fight the inevitable. Put some distance between yourself and anyone who is putting pressure on you to make a decision that you are unsure about. Volunteering to help others will give you time to reassess your personal situation. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): An emotional challenge is apparent. Get into a competitive frame of mind, but don't jeopardize your reputation. A calm approach with well-thought-out solutions will bring good results. Celebrate your victory with romance. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't expect to get any help from others. You'll be offered poor solutions based on false information. Do your own research and protect your assets and reputation. A positive change at home will restore your optimistic nature. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Implement unique changes to the way you live. Don't waffle when it's possible to improve your standard of living. Join forces with someone you love, and live life to the fullest. Romance will improve your life. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): An alternative way to use your skills will prompt a job change. Promote what you have to offer to colleagues you have worked with in the past, and opportunities will develop. Initiate changes instead of waiting for them to come to you. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't let a setback stop you in your tracks. Turn a negative into a positive. If someone stands in your way, it is probably time to re-evaluate your relationship. Listen for interesting offers. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are imaginative, sensitive and emotional. You are changeable and outspoken.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

2	4						5	8
1 3			9		5			4 9
	2			7			4	
	6			3			8	
4 9 6			7		1			5 2 7

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

8	3	1	6	7	4	5	2	9
7	9	5	2	1	3	8	4	6
2	6	4	9	8	5	3	1	7
6	5	3	4	2	7	9	8	1
9	8	2	5	6	1	4	7	3
4	1	7	8	3	9	2	6	5
3	7	8	1	5	2	6	9	4
5	2	9	7	4	6	1	3	8
1	4	6	3	9	8	7	5	2

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

ROB FORD (1969-2016) Solution: 10 letters

Y	N	Y	F	K	R	O	W	K	L	A	B	E	L	S
H	O	T	D	O	C	T	O	R	O	N	T	O	N	K
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Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than May 23, 2016. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-CCC-113
SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: MAY 24, 2016 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.
"CLEANING SERVICES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ EDWARD C. DELEON GUERRERO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP16-DCCA/NAP-079
SUBMISSION: JUNE 13, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**
"TO PROVIDE CNMI NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM'S ELIGIBILITY SYSTEM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, CNMI NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER **MARCH 15, 2016** AT THE **N.A.P. OFFICE**, LOCATED AT THE JTV BUILDING IN AS LITO, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING AND ARE DEUE NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **APRIL 28, 2016** AND MUS BE DIRECTED TO MR. WALTER MACARANAS, NAP ADMINISTRATOR BY FAX TO (670) 664-2580 OR E-MAIL TO **dccanap@pticom.com.**

IT IS A MANDATORY THAT ALL INTERESTED PARTIES REGISTER WITH THE CNMI DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY VIA E-MAIL TO procurement@pticom.com BY **MAY 13, 2016.**

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ LAURA T. OGUMORO
SECRETARY OF DCCA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

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CIP PROGRAM OFFICE, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS

Provisions of Architect and Engineering Services
for the
702 CIP Project Management Services
RFQ16-GOV-119

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from Architects and Engineers to provide Project Management Services for designated Federally Funded Projects, for FY 2016 – 2017.

Procurement procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 (Local Preference Act) as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Selected Architects and Engineers (Project Managers) will be retained as independent contractors under the General Provision of the Contracting Officer or his designee. Project Managers will act as agents of the expenditure authority on assigned Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) to ensure that identified objectives are achieved within cost, time and legal requirements while maintaining effective stakeholder communications. Selected Project Managers will be retained of a one year contract with an option to renew for an additiional year at the discretion of the Commonwealth. Project Managers include Architects, Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineers.

Compensation for Project Managers services will be determined based on the number of assigned projects including payments for appoved staff and expenses. The Commonwealth will negotiate with the selected Project Managers to determine the scope of work and responsibilities. Individuals or firms selected as project managers would be precluded from providing any other services associated with the assigned project(s).

Interested parties may pick up the applicable scope of work (SOW) and submittal requirements at the Office of Capital Improvement Program Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, beginning May 13, 2016 during working hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – (Monday through Friday, except on holiday). Submittal of all qualifications must precisely follow the submittal requirements identified in the Scope of Work and Submittal Requirements.

Selection of individuals for the provision of services shall be guided by the Commonwealth Department of Finance Division of Procurement & Supply, Procurement Regulations § 7070-30.3-305. To qualify, firms must have a valid CNMI Business License, and be currently licensed to practice engineering in the CNMI, and must hold a Certificate of Authorization, if applicable.
Fee estimates will assist the CIP Office for budgeting purposes, but will not be considered in the Firm evaluation scores.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330 or the latest version of Standard Forms. Only professionally licensed firms with a valid CNMI business license will be considered. Statement of Qualifications will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Past Experience and Performance as a Project Manager – 70%
2. Interview – 30%

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms or with all the firms. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The selected firm will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Qualifications statements must be sealed and marked "RFQ16-GOV-119", **Project Management Services for the 702 CIP Projects"**. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the qualifications statement must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP, no later than 9:00 a.m., on June 13, 2016. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 9:00 a.m.., ChST, on June 13, 2016 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed qualifications statement must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 13, 2016, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 9:00 a.m.,ChST on June 21, 2016. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Ralph DLG. Torres
CNMI, Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

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- Prepare financial or regulatory reports required by laws, regulations, or boardsof directors.
- Develop or analyze information to assess the current or future financial status of firms.
- Evaluate financial reporting systems, accounting or collection procedures, or investment activities and make recommendations for changes to procedures, operating systems, budgets, or other financial control functions.
- Establish procedures for custody or control of assets, records, loan collateral, or securities to ensure safekeeping.
- Plan, direct, and coordinate risk and insurance programs of establishments to control risks and losses.

Education/Experience:

- Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Business Administration or Accounting and 2 years' experience in Finance will be a plus. Salary will be discussed upon interview.

Interested candidates are requested to submit their resumes or pick up an employment application at
Champion Finance, 3rd floor, Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 316-B
or email championfinancecnmi@gmail.com

Curry, Thompson send Warriors to West finals

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Klay Thompson's sweet shooting touch carried the Warriors while Stephen Curry was down, and together again in the starting lineup the Splash Brothers led Golden State back to the Western Conference finals.

Thompson scored 33 points with six 3-pointers, Curry added 29 and sealed it with a 3 with 24.9 seconds left, and Golden State advanced to the West finals for the second straight season with a 125-121 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers in Game 5 on Wednesday night.

Curry finished with five 3s a day after becoming the first unanimous MVP in NBA history. He added 11 assists after returning to the starting lineup for the first time all series because of a knee injury.

Draymond Green, who had his left ankle re-taped in the fourth quarter, had 13 points, 11 rebounds and six assists after guaranteeing Golden State would advance from this game.

Damian Lillard scored 28 points and CJ McCollum had 27 for the Trail Blazers.

The Warriors got past Portland playing without Curry for the first three games as he recovered from a sprained right knee.

Now, Golden State will wait for the conclusion of the Oklahoma City-San Antonio series, led 3-2 by the Thunder. And the banged-up Warriors could use the time to get healthy.

They lost 7-foot center Andrew Bogut for the second half because of a right leg injury.

Thompson shot 13 for 17 and became the first player to have at least five 3s in seven straight games, also recording his fourth 30-point game this postseason. Marreese Speights provided key minutes off the bench and made a 3-pointer with 8:19 to play after a layup the previous possession.

"Klay's shooting was incredible tonight," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said.

Curry's 3-pointer to beat the third-quarter buzzer gave Golden State a 93-91 lead heading into the final 12 minutes, then the Warriors made sure their raucous crowd at Oracle Arena got to celebrate another series-clincher after they eliminated Houston at home—also winning that best-of-seven series 4-1.

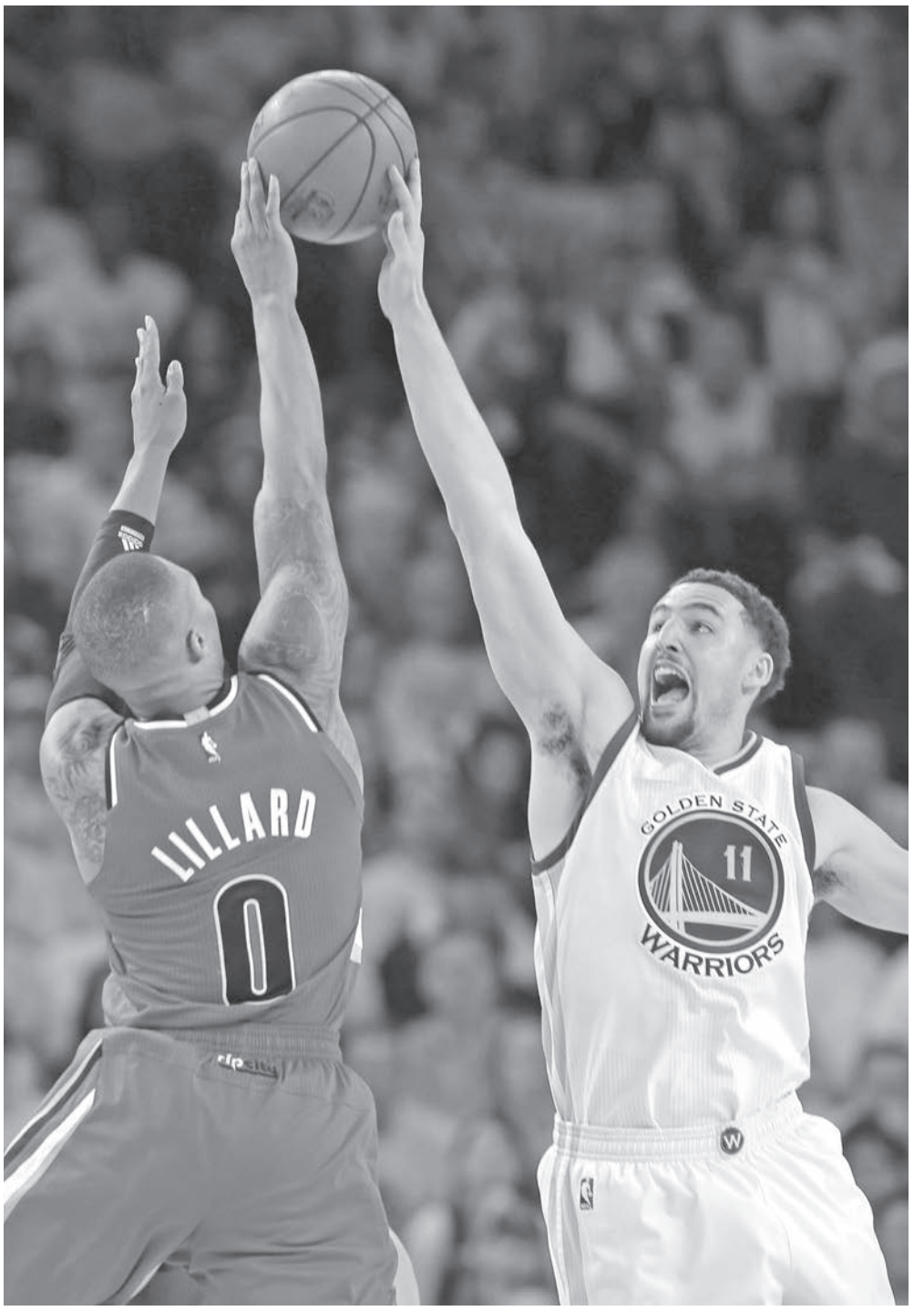
The Trail Blazers were 16 of 36 on 3-pointers and unlike their Game 2 loss at Oracle Arena stayed in this one all 48 minutes.

Allen Crabbe, who played at the University of California in nearby Berkeley, scored 20 points.

Curry's first points came at the 5:29 mark of the first quarter and then he got Golden State right back in it on one wild sequence.

He missed a long 3 off the front rim, Leandro Barbosa got the rebound and tried a backward pass to Curry that the point guard had to save. The ball went to Bogut, who turned toward the baseline and handed off to Curry from close range and buried a 3 over his tall teammate with 4:34 to go.

Green, who blocked a career-high seven shots in Game 4 on Monday, made good on his declaration to eliminate Portland.



AP

Golden State Warriors' Klay Thompson (11) blocks a shot from Portland Trail Blazers' Damian Lillard (0) during the second half in Game 5 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series Wednesday, May 11, 2016, in Oakland, Calif. Golden State won, 125-121.

After Game 4, he said: "Do I think they're done? Of course I think they're done," which he later acknowledged wasn't meant as disrespect but rather to fuel his own team.

Curry started for the first time since Game 4 of the first round at Houston, the day he slipped on a wet spot and sprained his knee. He came off the bench in a 132-125 overtime win in Game 4 and scored an NBA-record 17 points in the extra period on the way to 40.

Last year, on May 5, 2015, the Warriors lost their next game the day after Curry was named MVP—falling 97-90 at home to Memphis as Curry went 7 for 19, including 3 of 11 on 3s, for 19 points.

Lillard, an Oakland native, was 7-for-24 shooting in his final game of the season back home in the East Bay.

Raptors 99, Heat 91

In Toronto, DeMar DeRozan and Kyle Lowry went from invisible to indispensable for the Toronto Raptors.

DeRozan matched a playoff high with 34 points, Lowry had 25 and the Raptors beat the Miami Heat on Wednesday night to take a 3-2 lead in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

"We have faith in those guys, they've carried us the entire season," Raptors coach Dwane Casey said. "Not one time did we doubt their ability to score."

Bismack Biyombo had 10 points for the Raptors, who never trailed. Toronto can clinch its first conference finals berth with a win in Game 6 in Miami on Friday.

Lowry and DeRozan made six of 28 shot attempts and scored 19 total points as Toronto lost 94-87 in overtime in Game 4.

In Game 5, Toronto's All-Stars tallied 19 points in the first quarter alone. They shot 20 for 47 overall and scored 59 points, their highest total this postseason, even with DeRozan battling a bad thumb that took another hard hit in the second half.

"We just tried to go out there and be aggressive," DeRozan said. "We've been aggressive these past two series and shots just weren't dropping for us. We just told ourselves we were going to continue to be aggressive and it was going to come back around."

It was DeRozan's franchise-best 13th 20-point game in the playoffs and his sixth this postseason.

"He got to the free throw line and got in a rhythm early," Miami's Dwyane Wade said. "He was locked in all night."

Wade scored 20 for Miami. Goran Dragic and Josh Richardson each had 13.

Toronto led by 20 in the first half and by 13 to start the fourth quarter before its lead shrunk to 88-87 when Wade made a pair of free throws with 1:54 left.

"That's when I thought 'OK, this is our time to make that move,'" Wade said. "Unfortunately, from there we couldn't."

DeRozan made a pair of free throws and, after a Miami turnover, Lowry drained a long 3-pointer to put Toronto up 93-87 with 52 seconds left.

"I missed four or five easy shots throughout the fourth quarter," Lowry said. "I got an opportunity to make up for it."

DeRozan sealed it by going 4 for 4 on his free throws in the final 21 seconds. He finished 11 for 11 at the line.

DeRozan jammed his sore right thumb while fouling Miami's Tyler Johnson with 8:19 remaining in the fourth.

Spurs' Duncan competing with Thunder, Father Time

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Father Time can be awfully sneaky.

San Antonio forward Tim Duncan turned 40 last month, and the basketball world marveled at his accomplishments. Sure, his minutes were scaled back this season, but he played a significant role in helping the Spurs have their best regular season ever.

Suddenly, though, Duncan looks his age.

He has struggled in the past two games of the Western Conference semifinals against Oklahoma City's young front line featuring Steven Adams and Enes Kanter. In Game 3, the 15-time All-Star, five-time NBA champion and three-time Finals MVP went scoreless in 12 minutes, committed four fouls in the first half and did not play in the fourth quarter. In Game 4, Duncan was 1 for 6 from the field and scored five points in 28 minutes.

Duncan likely will need to play more like his former self if the Spurs are to extend their season, and perhaps his career. Duncan has a player option for next season, and he hasn't made it clear what he will do.

When asked what he was doing to be effective against Duncan, Adams said "Nothing," perhaps not wanting to give the future Hall of Famer any additional motivation.

Adams and Kanter also have slowed LaMarcus Aldridge, who averaged 39.5 points on 75 percent shooting the first two games. That has dropped to 21.3 points per contest on 36.7 percent shooting the last three games.

"He had a lot of open looks," Kawhi Leonard said of Aldridge after Game 5. "They just didn't fall. It's basketball. Once we play the right way and get the shots we take and play hard, that's all we could do."

Adams, a 7-foot center from New Zealand, is averaging 10.2 points and 12.0 rebounds in the series. Kanter, a 6-foot-11 forward from Turkey, is averaging 9.0 points and 7.6 rebounds. They usually don't play together, but have been both been on the floor late in the past two games. Thunder coach Billy Donovan said Kanter and Adams have put in the time to make the experiment successful.

"I give them a lot of credit because, although we did it a little bit during the regular season, being able to get with those guys after practice and talk with those guys, seeing them work together to try to play off of each other -- they've had to space the floor and work together." Donovan said. "They've got a good bond going there."

A look at Thursday's night's Game 6.

In Game 4, Kevin Durant went off. In Game 5, it was Russell Westbrook's turn.

If either—or both—get going in Game 6, the Spurs could be done for the year.

Both have struggled at times with their shots during playoffs, but there are signs that could be changing. In Game 4, Durant scored 29 of his 41 points in the second half. In Game 5, Westbrook made 12 of 27 shots and scored 35 points.

The Thunder want to bring their best effort in Game 6 because they're really not interested in going back to San Antonio for Game 7.

"Closeout games are the hardest," Durant said. "We know they're going to try to force this Game 7. We can't rely too much on our crowd. We can't be relaxed knowing that we're going to be at home. And they beat us at home in Game 3."

Scherzer has 20 Ks, ties MLB record in Nats win

AP

Washington Nationals starting pitcher Max Scherzer celebrates with his teammates after a baseball game against the Detroit Tigers at Nationals Park, Wednesday, May 11, 2016, in Washington. Scherzer struck out 20 batters, tying the major league nine-inning record. The Nationals won, 3-2.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Max Scherzer struck out 20 batters, matching the major league record for a nine-inning game as he pitched the Washington Nationals past the Detroit Tigers 3-2 on Wednesday night.

Scherzer (4-2) had a chance to break the mark when James McCann stepped to the plate with two outs in the ninth inning. McCann, who whiffed his previous three times up, grounded to third for the final out.

The astounding performance came in Scherzer's first outing against the Tigers, his former team.

He outpitched pal Jordan Zimmermann (5-2), a former Nationals teammate who left as a free agent for a $110 million, five-year deal with Detroit.

Scherzer, who pitched two no-hitters last season and struck out 17 in the second one, joined Roger Clemens (twice), Kerry Wood and Randy Johnson as the only big league pitchers to compile 20 strikeouts in nine innings.

Mets 4, Dodgers 3

In Los Angeles, Noah Syndergaard became the second pitcher in Mets history to hit two home runs in a game, driving in all of New York's runs in a victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Syndergaard (3-2) allowed two runs and six hits in eight innings, struck out six and walked one.

Padres 7,Cubs 4 Padres 1, Cubs 0

In Chicago, Drew Pomeranz tied a career high with 10 strikeouts in six scoreless innings and Christian Bethancourt hit a long solo home run to give San Diego a 1-0 victory over Chicago and a sweep of a day-night doubleheader.

In the first game, Brett Wallace hit a three-run homer in San Diego's four-run seventh inning, and the Padres stopped the Cubs' eight-game win streak with a 7-4 victory.

Rangers 6, White Sox 5

In Arlington, Adrian Beltre had the tiebreaking RBI single soon after his long errorless streak ended and Texas earned its second win in less than 24 hours against the team with the American League's best record.

Beltre had a throwing error in top of the sixth to end his streak of 44 games without one.

Royals 7, Yankees 3

In New York, Salvador Perez hit a three-run homer in yet another big first inning against Michael Pineda, and slumping Kansas City rebounded to beat New York.

Down by four runs six batters in, New York clawed back to 4-3 against Yordano Ventura before Lorenzo Cain hit a two-run single in the sixth against reliever Nick Goody.

Red Sox 13, Athletics 3

In Boston, Jackie Bradley Jr. had two home runs and six RBI to extend his hitting streak to 17 games, and Boston completed a three-game sweep.

Boston scored six runs in the first four innings and then had four more in the fifth to post its third straight game with at least 10 runs.

Braves 5, Phillies 1

In Atlanta, Williams Perez allowed only two hits and one run in eight innings, Freddie Freeman homered and Atlanta finally claimed just its second home win.

Perez (1-0), recalled from Triple-A Gwinnett before the game, did not walk a batter while matching his longest start in the majors.

Pirates 5, Reds 4

In Cincinnati, Jordy Mercer singled home the go-ahead run in the top of the ninth inning, rallying Pittsburgh to a victory over Cincinnati in an NL Central rivalry game full of plunkings and ejections.

Andrew McCutchen, David Freese, Jung Ho Kang and Josh Harrison each hit solo homers.

Marlins 3, Brewers 2

In Miami, Wei-Yin Chen tied a career high with 12 strikeouts in 6 1/3 innings to help Miami beat Milwaukee.

Justin Bour hit a two-run homer for the Marlins, who won with five hits to take the series and finish 6-3 on their homestand.

Giants 5, Blue Jays 4, 13 innings

In San Francisco, Buster Posey walked with the bases loaded in the 13th inning and San Francisco salvaged one win in a three-game series with Toronto.

Albert Suarez (1-0) pitched an inning for his first major-league victory.

Rockies 8, Diamondbacks 7

In Denver, Nolan Arenado hit a tiebreaking home run in the eighth inning, and Colorado ended its seven-game home losing streak.

Charlie Blackmon homered among his three hits and drove in three runs for Colorado.

Astros 5, Indians 3, 16 innings

In Houston, Marwin Gonzalez hit a two-run homer in the 16th inning for Houston.

Carlos Correa reached on an infield single to start the inning, Houston's first hit since the seventh. One out later, Gonzalez sent one into the seats in right field off Cody Anderson (0-3) to hand Houston its third victory in five games.

Orioles 9, Twins 2

In Minneapolis, Mark Trumbo hit two home runs and the Baltimore Orioles hit back-to-back homers for the third straight game.

Miguel Sano hit his fourth homer for the Twins (8-25), who have lost seven straight games.

Mariners 6, Rays 5, 11 innings

In Seattle, Chris Iannetta led off the bottom of the 11th inning with a homer to give Seattle a sweep of the three-game series against Tampa Bay.

Iannetta jumped on a 3-2 pitch from Steve Geltz (0-1) for his third homer for Seattle.

Cardinals 5, Angels 2

In Anaheim, Jaime Garcia allowed just four hits in seven innings to lead the St. Louis Cardinals past the Los Angeles Angels.

Garcia (3-2) gave up two unearned runs and struck out eight to win his second straight start.

Professor: Olympics should be postponed due to Zika

LONDON (AP)—With the opening ceremony in Rio de Janeiro less than three months away, a Canadian professor has called for the Olympics to be postponed or moved because of the Zika outbreak, warning the influx of visitors to Brazil will result in the avoidable birth of malformed babies.

"But for the games, would anyone recommend sending an extra half a million visitors into Brazil right now?" University of Ottawa professor Amir Attaran, who specializes in public health, said in an article published this week in the Harvard Public Health Review.

Brazil is by far the country most affected by Zika, a mosquito-borne virus which has now been scientifically proven to cause a range of disturbing birth defects, including babies born with abnormally small heads and neurological problems.

In February, the World Health Organization declared the epidemic to be a global health emergency. The WHO says there are no restrictions on travel or trade with countries affected by Zika outbreaks but advises pregnant women not to travel to those regions.

Attaran's position is not shared by Olympic and global health authorities, who insist the Aug. 5-21 games will not be derailed by the virus.

The International Olympic Committee, which follows the WHO's advice, said it has no plans to relocate or postpone the games.

"The clear statements from WHO that there should be no restrictions on travel and trade means there is no justification for canceling or delaying or postponing or moving the Rio Games," Dr. Richard Budgett, the IOC's medical director, told The Associated Press. "The IOC will continue to monitor the situation very closely and work with the WHO, and we're confident as we've been advised by the experts that the situation will improve over the next three months."

The Olympics are expected to draw about 500,000 visitors from abroad, a prospect that Attaran fears could spark new outbreaks elsewhere in the world and result in an increase in the number of brain-damaged babies born to infected pregnant women that might otherwise not have traveled to Brazil. He doesn't want the games to be canceled, but argues they should be delayed or moved.

"If the IOC and the World Health Organization do not have the generosity of heart to delay the games to prevent children being born and disabled their whole lives, then they're among the cruelest institutions in the world," Attaran, an outspoken critic of WHO, said in a telephone interview with the AP.

"What I'm asking for is a bit of delayed gratification so that babies aren't born permanently disabled."

The Zika outbreak is just one of the challenges facing Brazil in the buildup to South America's first Olympics. Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff is facing impeachment, the economy is in deep recession and the country is gripped by a vast corruption scandal centered on state-controlled oil giant Petrobras.

Attaran is not the first public health official to call for the games to be postponed because of the Zika risk; New York-based academics Arthur Caplan and Lee Igel wrote in an article in Forbes in February that hosting the Olympics at a site teeming with the virus is "quite simply, irresponsible."

The IOC and Brazilian organizers say the Zika threat will be mitigated because the games are taking place in the South American winter, reducing the mosquito population. But not everyone is convinced the Zika threat will subside entirely by August.

"This is a wake-up call for authorities to look at the situation more closely," said Jimmy Whitworth, a professor of international public health at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, referring to Attaran's article.

He was not linked to Attaran's paper and acknowledged it might be difficult to change any Olympic plans at this late stage.

Whitworth said it was WHO's responsibility to make the health risks clear, even if that means issuing what could be very unpopular advice that could affect the Olympics.

Winners in PBA-Budweiser tourneys recognized

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Monthly winners in the PBA-Budweiser tournaments gather for a group photo after receiving their trophies last Saturday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Rusty Musca poses with his trophy and cash prize during the awards ceremony for the 2015 PBA Budweiser Bowler of the Year Tournament last Saturday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Philippine Bowling Association finally awarded the trophies and other prizes to the winners in the 2015 PBA-Budweiser Saturday Night League and 2015 PBA Budweiser Bowler of the Year Tournament last Saturday at the Saipan Bowling Center.

The awards ceremonies for the two tournaments that concluded late in June last year were postponed after Typhoon Soudelor hit Saipan last Aug. 2, causing the closure of SBC and cancelation of bowling competitions for several months.

The Bowler of the Year contest ended on June 28 with Rusty Musca besting 20 other participants. Musca topped the nine-game qualifier as he totaled 1, 750 pins for an average of 194.44. He was the lone bowler in the field to average at least 190 per game, highlighting his performance in the qualifier with a 244 in Game 1 before closing with back-to-back 200-plus pins in Games 8 (212) and 9 (214). His others scores were 174, 187, 165, 181, 183, and 180, giving him a 45-pinfall lead over the second-ranked Alex Castro (1,705).

With their Top 2 finish in the elimination, Musca and Castro advanced to the step-ladder finals along with Bernard Paraiso (1,675), Simon Manacop (1,640), and Ruselle Zapanta (1,639). The last three qualifiers then battled for the right to face Castro in the semifinals, while Castro automatically moved into the finale. Manacop survived the playoff after logging 236 against the 212 and 148 of Zapanta and Paraiso, respectively, before falling to Castro in the semis. Castro registered 278 versus the 234 of Manacop to arrange a title showdown against Musca, who had a twice-to-beat advantage in the finale. Musca did not need the privilege as he took only one game to clinch the crown with his 224-189 victory against Castro.

Musca, Castro, and Manacop received trophies and cash prizes during last weekend's awards ceremony, which the latter missed.

In the PBA Saturday Night League, the first place trophy and $500 cash went to Fiesta Resort & Spa, while D'Unknown and SBC/J's Restaurant also received awards plus $350 and $200, respectively. Mobil went home with $100 for placing fourth, while IT&E Hall of Fame got $50 for landing at fifth spot.

Special awards were also handed to the team and individual winners with SBC/J's Restaurant prevailing in the high scratch game and series, and high handicap series. Fiesta foiled an SBC/J's Restaurant sweep in the team event after topping the high handicap game.

In the individual categories, SBC/J's Restaurant's Roger De Guzman won the high scratch and high handicap game and series, while Fiesta's Ador Dimaano ruled the high scratch series. In the women's field. SBC/J's Restaurant's Kathy Mersai lorded it over in the high scratch game and series, while Myrna Santos and Ruby Besid topped the high handicap game and series, respectively.

Mersai got two more awards—the individual high average and most improved bowler. In the men's division, the most improved bowler was Raphael Zapanta, while Robert Talavera had the high average in the season.

CHAMPS

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Championships in Kazan Arena, Kazan, Russia. Chentsova, who holds the CNMI age group records (17 to 18) in the 200m, 400m, 800m, and 1,500m freestyle events, is currently based in Massachusetts, while the three other members of the team are training under Saipan Swim Club.

Welch, Villacrusis, and Suzuki just had their final local competition for the 2015-2016 season last Saturday when they competed in the NMISF Closing Swim Meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool. Of the three male swimmers, only Suzuki is a record-holder, setting marks in the 50m, 100m, and 200m freestyle, and 200m individual medley in the 11 to 12 age group.

Meanwhile, the Oceania championships will run from June 21 to 26 at the Damodar National Aquatic Centre in Suva. This will be the sixth time that the CNMI is sending swimmers to the regional contest. In 2000, Xenavee Pangelinan represented the Commonwealth to the event hosted by New Zealand. In 2002, Dean Palacios, Seung Gin Lee, and Tamiko Winkfield competed in New Caledonia, while Nina Mosley and Juan Camacho were sent to Fiji for the 2014 competition. In the last two tournaments, the CNMI fielded only one swimmer in Rezne Wong (2012 in New Caledonia) and Kensuke Kimura (2014 in New Zealand).

Rosenberry scores 1st MLS goal to help Union tie Galaxy

CHESTER, Pa. (AP)—Keegan Rosenberry scored his first MLS goal in the 63rd minute and the Philadelphia Union tied the Los Angeles Galaxy 2-2 on Wednesday night.

Los Angeles goalkeeper Dan Kennedy bobbled a header on a Philadelphia corner kick and Rosenberry put it in the back of the net.

Philadelphia (4-3-2) ended a three-game losing streak against Los Angeles (5-1-4). Philadelphia has lost six of the nine career meetings with two draws.

The Union took a 1-0 lead in the 4th minute on Vincent Nogueira's second-effort goal. His initial shot from the penalty spot was defended away but Nogueira hustled to the ball and poked it home.

Los Angeles tied it in the 15th. Giovani dos Santos cut back a defender at the edge of the box and dropped a pass to an overlapping Robbie Rogers, who found the upper corner of the net.

Mike Magee gave the Galaxy a 2-1 edge two minutes after halftime. Steven Gerrard sent a well-paced ball to an open space and Magee powered a shot past goalkeeper Andre Blake.

FC Dallas 2, Timbers 1

In Frisco, Ryan Hollingshead and Walker Zimmerman each scored their first goal of the season—two minutes apart—and FC Dallas beat Portland.

Hollingshead scored in the 55th minute to end Dallas' three-plus game scoreless stretch. His pass was deflected into the area and he raced to the loose ball to score with the outside of his foot. Zimmerman then headed in Mauro Diaz's corner kick for a 2-1 lead.

Dallas (6-4-2) was coming off a winless and goal-less three-game road swing. It was outscored 8-0 during the stretch and didn't have too many scoring chances in the first half against Portland.

The Timbers put FC Dallas in the hole in the third minute. Lucas Melano battled to gain possession on a cross and found an open Diego Valeri in front of goal.

Portland (3-5-3) has one win in seven games at Dallas.

Earthquakes 3, Dynamo 1

In San Jose, Alberto Quintero scored two goals off assists by Chris Wondolowski and San Jose beat Houston.

Quintero opened the scoring in the third minute when he got a sliding touch on Wondolowski's breakaway cross. Quintero also assisted on Anibal Godoy's give-and-go goal in the 50th minute to make it 2-1 for San Jose (5-3-3).

Wondolowski won a cross with three defenders surrounding him in the 70th minute and found an open Quintero in front of goal. It was the second two-assist game of Wondolowski's career. He is fourth in MLS history with 116 goals and has 25 assists.

ENFORCERS

From Page 32

Neither team made it to the board in the sixth and the Enforcers also failed to score at the top of the last after a 1-2-3 inning. At the bottom of the seventh, the Falcons moved within one when leadoff batter Aven Evangelista singled and eventually reached home off the Enforcers' series of errors, with only one out and third batter Arby Yaguel moving into second after fourth batter Max Pangelinan advanced to first off another miscue from their opponent.

Pangelinan then attempted to run to second, but was beaten by Dennis Cabrera after a throw from shortstop Pedro Maratita. Now one out away, the Enforcers failed to close the match in the ensuing play, as Zack Reyes marched to first off a fielder's choice, while Yaguel moved to third. However, Reyes and Yaguel were eventually left stranded as Cabrera and Ignacio Mendiola teamed up for a 6-3 putout play on I.J. Teigita.

Meanwhile, the Falcons denied the Enforcers a sweep last weekend after prevailing in the Senior League match, 10-4.

Starting pitcher Kekuni Kainoa worked the mound for six innings, allowing only four hits and three earned runs. With Kainoa pitching and his teammates also holding their own on defense, the Falcons allowed the Enforcers to score in only two innings.

Enforcers pitcher Jose Camacho put his team on the board in the second inning with his two-run single, while Virgil Secharmidal had an RBI single in the fifth and their squad got one more off the Falcons' error.

With the Enforcers only making four runs, the Falcons stayed on top after five complete innings, 5-4, and made it a two-run lead in the sixth off Richard's Atalig's RBI single. The Falcons then went for the kill at the top of the last inning, scoring four runs off Atalig's two-run single, Jay Kalen's RBI single, and Kimo Angailen's run from a passed ball.

At the bottom of the final inning, the Enforcers were pressed to score six runs to send the game to extra inning and seven to win it outright. They did neither, as the Falcons quickly retired the Enforcers' first three batters. Relief pitcher Neldreyton Skerei struck out Camacho—the leadoff batter—while the last two bowed out off 6-3 plays.

Strong finish for Tsunami Saipan swimmers

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tsunami Saipan swimmers made the most out of last Saturday's NMISF Closing Swim Meet held at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Eight members of the club posted 100 percent personal best marks and one meet a qualifying standard time, giving Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura a lot of reasons to smile and be confident coming into the Guam Championships later this month.

Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero led the Tsunami Saipan swimmers who got perfect PBTs, making the feat in the boys 9 to 10's 100m backstroke (1:30.64), 400m freestyle (5:25.16), and 50m freestyle (32.59 seconds). Nanaka Watanabe and Arman Rechucher also raced in the same age group with the latter getting PBTs in the 200m freestyle (3:24.22), 200m IM (3:43.11), and 50m freestyle (40.34 seconds). Watanabe, on the other hand, marked PBTs in the 50m breaststroke (42.87 seconds), 100m breaststroke (1:31.96), and 200m breaststroke (3:17.78) and these times were so close to CNMI age group records.

In the 11 to 12 division, Risa Sekiguchi, Sophia Gauran, and Joseph Zhang gained three PBTs each. Sekiguchi tallied PBTs in the 50m butterfly (49.19 seconds), 200m IM (3:36.43), and 50m freestyle (39.51 seconds). Gauran also had a PBT in the 50m freestyle (31.74 seconds) to go with her best marks in the 100m breaststroke (1:33.47) and 200m IM (3:24.03), while Zhang's listed his PBTs in the 50m butterfly (56.06 seconds), 100m freestyle (1:30.85), and 50m breaststroke (58.09 seconds).

In the U8 age group, Maria Batallones' PBTs came from 100m backstroke (1:48.49), 100m breaststroke (2:03.69), and 200m individual medley (3:57.59), while Aasish Dangol had his in the 50m freestyle (40.50 seconds), 50m butterfly (42.95 seconds), and 200m IM (3:31.15).

"Although he is only 7-years-old, Aasish has already marked AA times in two events (200m IM and 50m butterfly). He is only the third Tsunami Saipan swimmers to do these. Lukas Kang and Ryuto Yanai were the first two," Kimura said.

"Maria got a BB time for her 200m IM and as a result she can swim maximum events (six for U8 swimmer) in the Guam Championships later this month. Maria and Aasish have strong chances of winning first place in the Guam tournament," the Tsunami Saipan official added.

Joining Batallones and Dangol on the Guam-bound Tsunami Saipan crew is Ayumi Obligacion.

"We have a new qualifier in Ayumi after last Saturday's meet. She just turned 11 two weeks ago and got a BB time (200m breaststroke/3:37.19). She never gave up and was betting on her last chance for a ticket to Guam," Kimura said.

"We had a good meet last Saturday with the number of swimmers who can join the maximum events in Guam increasing. They need to enter the maximum events to get medals in the competition. There were no DQs, too and that's great, especially for new swimmers," the club coach ended.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero races in the 400m freestyle event in last Saturday's NMISF Closing Swim Meet held at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

Marianas Paddlefest set for June 18

Marianas Paddlefest 2016 brought to you by the Hyatt Regency Saipan, Windsurfing Saipan, and the OceanSoul Society is set to take place on June 18 at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's beachside.

There will be short (approximately 500 meters) and long (3 miles) courses format this year. For the long course, participants have the option of entering as a single paddler or with a 2-person relay team. The long course will include two board divisions: 12ft and under and 14ft.

There is also a youth course, which will be about 250-meter long, set up for paddlers in the 8 to 12 age group.

Similar to last year, interested teams and individuals can register at Windsurfing Saipan which is located on the north side of the Hyatt Regency beachside. Registration is $10 for youth (8-16) and $20 for adults (17 and over) and deadline for submission of entries is on June 15. Boards will be available for use through Windsurfing Saipan on race day for only $5.

"We will have a practice course set up every Sunday from 1pm to 4pm up (with the exception of 5/8) until race day at the Hyatt beachside for anyone interested in coming out to give it a go and prepare for MPF 2016. We will have adult supervision for youth paddlers 12 and under from 1pm to 2pm," said Dino Manning, one of the organizers of the competition.

For more information, send email to oceansoulunlimited@gmail.com or windspn@me.com. Updates on the event can also be checked at OceanSoul Society Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/OceansoulUnlimited

Proceeds from next month's competition will go toward future events geared for keeping our youth active through paddle sports. ***(PR)***

Curry, Thompson send Warriors to West finals

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Scherzer has 20 Ks, ties MLB record in Nats win

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4 to compete in Oceania swim champs

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation has named four swimmers and one coach to the CNMI National Team that will compete in the XI Oceania Championships in Fiji next month.

The elite squad is composed of Victoria Chentsova, Salofi Welch, Christian Villacrusis, and Lennosuke Suzuki and coach Bobby Winkfield.

All four swimmers are first-timers in the regional tournament held every two years, but Chentsova is no stranger to a big competition like this, as last year she represented the Commonwealth in the 16th FINA World

See CHAMPS on Page 30

CHENTSOVA

SUZUKI

VILLACRUSIS

WELCH

Enforcers, Falcons split games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Enforcers eked out a 7-6 victory over the Falcons in their Junior League division game in the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Enforcers scored in the first five innings of the game and made the necessary defensive stops at the bottom of the seventh inning to pull off the close win.

Two runs each in the first and fifth inning and one apiece from the second to fourth gave the Enforcers a 7-5 cushion against the Falcons, who remained in contention after tacking on four runs at the bottom of the third and adding one more in the fifth.

See ENFORCERS on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Kagman Enforcers player throws to first base during their Senior League game against the Falcons in the first round of the SLLB at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Lee settles for 15 ITF Juniors ranking points

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee missed a semifinals appearance in the 2016 Chuck E. Cheese's ITF Junior Championships after bowing to the tournament's top-ranked player yesterday at the Rick Ninete Tennis Centre in Hagatna, Guam.

No. 1 seed Sara Tsukamoto of the U.S. blanked Lee in the opening set, 6-0, and then completed the sweep with a 6-3 victory in the second to deny the CNMI bet's bid for a semis slot at the upper half of the draw.

With the defeat, Lee will have to settle for the 10 ranking points given to the loser in the quarterfinal round of the singles event. The Commonwealth's junior player earned singles ranking points in the Grade 5 tournament after beating Japan's Karen Kondo, 6-1, 6-1, and Chinese-Taipei's Ling Hsuan-Wei, 6-2, 6-3, early this week. Lee will also get 5 ranking points in the doubles, as she and teammate Ayana Rengiil of Palau won their opening match.

Pending the awarding of her 15 ranking points from the Guam tournament, Lee, according to the ITF Juniors website, has collected 60 points in the singles and 25 in the doubles

Meanwhile, with her win over Lee, Tsukamoto set a Final Four showdown against No.8-ranked and Japan's Himeno Sakatsume, who pulled off an upset over the third-seeded Ting-Chieh Wei of Chinese- Taipei, 7-6, (6), 4-6, 6-4, in the other quarterfinal game at the top half of the bracket.

At the lower half, the second-ranked Yuelin Chen of Chinese-Taipei advanced to the semifinals after eliminating Mana Kawamura, 6-3, 6-3. Chen will be facing in the Final Four another Japanese in Shuho Tsukuda, who ousted compatriot Kokomi Oyama, 7-5, 6-2.

In the boys division, Japan's Seita Watanabe and Kai Kawano were joined in the semifinals by Hong Kong's Jonathan Zhang and South Korea's Yohan Sung.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Carol Lee goes for a backhand return to Chinese-Taipei's Ling Hsuan-Wei during their second round match in the 2016 Chuck E. Cheese's ITF Junior Championships last Wednesday at the Rick Ninete Tennis Centre in Hagatna, Guam.